

HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM THE B.A.R.!



Photo: Darlene/Photo Graphics

Bay Area Reporter

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395 NINTH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

National Lutherans To Boot SF Gay-Friendly Churches

by Dennis Conkin

Two San Francisco Lutheran churches that defied a denominational ban on ordaining sexually active lesbian and gay people to the ministry will be expelled, five years after the historic acts drew international attention.

St. Francis Lutheran Church and First United Lutheran Church will be expelled Sunday, December 31 from the 5.2 million member Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, following a five-year suspension.

The suspension was ordered to give the denomination time to develop its ecclesiastic and theological

positions on human sexuality and find a way to allow flexibility on the issue of sexually active lesbian and gay clergy.

The disciplinary action follows the January 1990 ordinations of the Reverend Ruth Frost and the Reverend Phyllis Zillhart, a lesbian couple, and the Reverend Jeff Johnson, an openly gay man.

All were qualified graduates of Lutheran seminaries but were not certified for ELCA ordination because they refused to make a lifelong commitment to abstain from sexual relations, as required by the denomination.

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Another Acremant Victim Identified

by Mary Ann Swissler

The body of a California man discovered at the bottom of a 35-foot well on a Calaveras County ranch has been positively identified as 22-year-old Scott George of Visalia. He was apparently shot to death by Robert James Acremant, who has also confessed to killing two lesbian activists in Oregon two weeks after George's murder.

Authorities discovered the body after Acremant provided

them with details of how he shot and then dumped George's lifeless body on the ranch, owned by his father.

Visalia Police Sgt. Jim German told the B.A.R. that George's autopsy, performed December 20 by the Tulare County coroner, showed no signs of sexual assault or mutilation. German did not know if George was gay, but added that he doubted it since George was known to have a female fiancée, although they'd recently broken up.

George met Acremant through his parents about a year ago, and were not thought to be close friends, said German. Robbery appears to be the only motive at this point.

George's parents have not speculated to police or reporters what Acremant's motives might have been. "They've buried their son and they want to get on with their lives," German said.

Acremant is not expected to face criminal charges anytime soon for killing George, according to German. He is currently in a Medford, Oregon jail awaiting a January 17 hearing, where he is expected to enter a guilty plea for the double, execution-style slaying of Roxanne Ellis and Michelle Abdill on December 4.

While Acremant has not expressed any remorse since being captured, he has provided a full confession to police and asked to be executed by lethal injection as soon as possible. According to Medford Police Sergeant Mike Moran, deputies overheard Acremant say at his arraignment last week, "Can't we get through with this any sooner?" ▼



Photo: Gregory H. Fleischer

Glory hole horror: Frenchy's at 1020 Geary Street was the site of acid attacks earlier this month.

25¢ Movie Patrons Attacked

by Dennis Conkin

Two gay men were seriously burned and disfigured in separate incidents earlier this month, when they stuck their penises through glory holes in a porno bookstore's peepshow booths and an attacker maimed them with an unidentified caustic agent.

According to reports from police and Community United Against Violence spokesperson Leslie Addison, the attacks happened at Frenchy's K&T Bookstore, located at Polk and Geary streets.

"Two people have contacted Community United Against Violence. My guess is that there are plenty more," Addison said.

Both glory hole attacks happened in the early morning hours, and both victims were injured after their attacker displayed sexual interest in them.

"He indicated his interest and when one person put his [penis] through the hole, apparently the acid was thrown on him," Addison told the Bay Area Reporter. "It wasn't clear to the second vic-

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COMMUNITY NEWS

UCSF Med Center Hit with Gay, HIV Discrimination Suit

by Mary Ann Swissler

A San Francisco gay man has filed a half-million dollar discrimination lawsuit against the University of California at San Francisco Medical Center, a local institution better known for perfecting the "gay-friendly workplace" than as a hotbed of contempt towards gay and HIV-positive employees.

The case of *Edgar Littleton v. UCSF*, filed last June, could be settled at an arbitration hearing scheduled for January 16, according to his attorney Bruce Nickerson. Nickerson told the *B.A.R.* that although UCSF is an exemplary institution, its internal police force contains problems typical of many security departments.

"Security people are, by and large, wanna-be cops," he said. "And wanna-be cops are like real-life cops in that they are extremely authoritarian, and they resist change. They resist new ideas, and they have problems with both women and gays, and anyone else who doesn't fit the traditional masculine image."

Littleton told the *B.A.R.* he left his seven-year job as a security guard at the Parnassus Avenue facility in March, 1995. At the time, he said, anti-gay taunts had become unbearably routine and culminated in his being assigned to more stressful working conditions. Littleton alleged in court documents that his supervisor said, "My sister's supervisor is more disgustingly effeminate than you."



Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland

Edgar Littleton alleges his supervisor called him "Dearie," "Missy" and "Sweetie," among other epithets.

"She called me 'Dearie,' 'Missy,' 'Sweetie,' on numerous occasions," the complaint continues. "She placed me on the busiest shifts with the least coverage. [I was] denied leaves [of absence] arbitrarily and she called me at home and harassed me on my days off."

Now, Littleton says, "I can't go back to work in the [security] department because my T-cells just plummeted."

Littleton said that he sought out an alternate assignment through the UCSF Human Resources Department, specifically mentioning the homophobia and HIV/AIDS phobia that he said was prevalent in the security department. When he was informed his supervisor would have to okay

such a transfer, he said, "If you go back to the department, that's the source of the problem. That isn't really going to help me."

A UCSF spokesperson would not elaborate on the case when contacted by the *B.A.R.*

"I can't say anything because it's in litigation, except to say that we deny everything [Littleton] has said," UCSF attorney Gary Lafayette said. "There's another side to the story, but unfortunately I'm not at liberty to discuss that."

Littleton's former supervisor is no longer working at UCSF, but her departure has nothing to do with the case, according to an employee in the police department division who did not want his name used. ▼

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SF Health Commission Acknowledges Crypto Threat

by Dennis Conkin

The six members of the San Francisco Health Commission unanimously adopted a resolution Wednesday, December 20 recommending actions to be taken because of cryptosporidium in the city's drinking water supply.

The commission's resolution acknowledged that cryptosporidium cannot be considered safe for human consumption and ordered the health department to:

- inform immunocompromised people about the risks of drinking untreated San Francisco tap water, and educate them about ways to avoid potential risks through a variety of methods, including boiling water and filtration;

- educate the community and healthcare providers about routes of crypto transmission, including bathing, showering, and swimming;

- study the feasibility of providing cryptosporidium-free water that has been treated by distillation, reverse osmosis, or submicron filtration to all patients and visitors at health department facilities;

- routinely screen the fecal samples of health department patients suffering from immuno-

compromising illnesses such as cancer and HIV/AIDS for the cryptosporidium parvum parasite; and

- monitor cases of cryptosporidium to ensure that HIV-negative persons and persons seen through private healthcare are included in statistical data.

'Zero tolerance'

The resolution is a mixed victory, according to AIDS activists who say it was a frank admission by the commission that tap water sources may be unhealthy for immunocompromised people.

"The health commission overruled the bureaucrats running the AIDS office and admitted there is a problem," said ACT UP/Golden Gate member Bill Thorne, a longtime critic of the city's response to crypto infestation.

ACT UP/Golden Gate spokesman Rob Sabados told the *Bay Area Reporter* that activists would continue to monitor the situation, and said the group would continue to seek a "zero tolerance level" for the parasite in the water supply.

But ACT UP/San Francisco spokesman Michael Bellefontaine told the *B.A.R.* that group will take "direct action" over the

failure of the health department to issue a boiled water advisory.

"The city of Los Angeles directs people with HIV and a CD4 count of 200 or less to not drink tap water unless it's been boiled a minute. The city of San Francisco tells people with HIV they may want to boil their water," Bellefontaine said.

"If people with HIV don't boil their water, they are going to get cryptosporidium. What the fuck are they doing?"

Bellefontaine derided the plan to study providing crypto-free water to health department facilities, saying it is ridiculous that people with HIV would contract the parasite because of the health department's response to the water crisis — and only when they got sick, and went to the health department for treatment, would they finally be given crypto-free water.

The health department resolution did not mention oral-anal sex as a way of contracting cryptosporidiosis, which many public health experts claim is the primary route of transmission in people with AIDS. The presence of the parasite in people with HIV infection is considered an AIDS-defining diagnosis. ▼

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Gay/Lesbian Sierrans Announce Bob Walker Award Ceremony

by Mary Ann Swissler

Bob Walker was a gay landscape photographer who lived in the Haight district of San Francisco, but devoted most of his time preserving the open space areas in the East Bay on film. The pictures earned him a reputation as an artist, and also as an advocate. Armed with the photographs Walker became an able lobbyist in front of government agencies in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties, on behalf of wilderness and recreational areas whenever they were threatened by development. He died of AIDS in 1992 at age 40.

To commemorate Walker's unwavering defense of open green land in the East Bay, and to encourage similar activism, the Gay and Lesbian Sierrans have announced nominations for the first annual Bob Walker Conservation Awards. Two \$500 awards will be presented, one to an individual and one to a group from the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area for a current grassroots conservation effort that emphasizes leadership, advocacy, and coalition-building.

Candidates are not necessarily gay or lesbian, according to Andrea Mackenzie, co-chair of the Gay & Lesbian Sierrans.

"The award is the first award of its kind, given by a gay conservation organization," Mackenzie told the *Bay Area Reporter*. Names of the winners will remain sealed until the night of the awards.



Gay landscape photographer Bob Walker, seen here in a self-portrait, used his art to help protect East Bay wilderness and recreational areas threatened by development.

Those who are chosen, she said, are "people who are out there on the front lines protecting the environment, but who may not always be getting the credit and support that they deserve."

One of Walker's more successful projects was in persuading the Park District to acquire land on Pleasanton Ridge near Hayward, Mackenzie said.

"His biggest love was an open space called Morgan Territory," east of Mt. Diablo State Park and adjacent to Los Vaqueros Reservoir. He photographed it after seeing the property was up for sale, and, with the Gay and Lesbian

Sierrans, lobbied the East Bay Regional Park District to acquire land to expand Morgan Territory.

"Now we have a continuous open space link between Morgan Territory and Mt. Diablo State Park," Mackenzie said.

Mackenzie, an Open Space Planner for East Bay Regional Park District, estimated that currently there are 80,000 acres in park land or open space in Alameda County and Contra Costa County. San Francisco has a similar recreation and park district, which is responsible for Golden Gate Park, among other properties. ▼

Sackett To Receive Posthumous Award in Marin

by Dennis Conkin

A Marin County needle exchange activist who died this summer of congestive heart failure will be posthumously awarded the Marin County Human Rights Commission's Martin Luther King, Jr. Lifetime Achievement Award.

Geoffrey Sackett, who died in June while suffering from AIDS, will be honored with the annual award next month, according to Marin County HRC spokeswoman Patricia Maguire.

Sackett was co-chair of the commission, and led the successful effort to have the county's board of supervisors declare a state of emergency similar to the one declared in San Francisco that allows needle exchanges to take place.

According to Alysanne Taylor, a close friend and colleague, the 48-year-old Sackett was a tireless AIDS activist and advocate.

"He was also a pretty active community volunteer," Taylor told the *Bay Area Reporter*. In addition to his involvement with the AIDS Commission, Sackett was also a member of the San Francisco Ryan White Planning Council that made federal funding recommendations for the San Mateo, Marin, and San Francisco area hit by AIDS.

The Marin County native also worked as a union organizer and managed a restaurant for many



According to close friend Alysanne Taylor (right), Geoffrey Sackett (left) was a tireless AIDS activist and advocate and "also a pretty active community volunteer."

years.

Co-founder of the Needle Exchange Program of Marin, NEPOM, which distributed an estimated 2,800 syringes and needle each month, Sackett also founded a statewide group that advocated for needle exchange throughout California.

Sackett contracted AIDS though a blood transfusion in the early 80s, Taylor told the *Bay Area Reporter*, and also suffered from severe diabetes and epilepsy in addition to his other medical diffi-

culties.

Sackett is survived by two brothers, a sister, and his mother, who will accept the award.

State Senator John Burton will be the keynote speaker at the 15th annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Awards dinner. It will be held at the Embassy Suites in San Rafael on Thursday, January 11 at 6 p.m. ▼

For more information about the dinner contact Maguire at (415) 499-6189.

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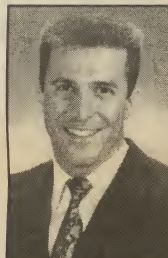
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Castro Landlord/ Tenant Dispute Over Xmas Season Testing

by Dennis Conkin

A landlord's test for seismic repairs at a popular Castro and 19th Street office supply store has her tenants rumbling.

The Saturday, December 23 test at San Francisco Office Supply required the drilling of large inspection holes in the store's 600-square-foot space to determine the extent of required repairs. Wes Waite, owner of the 17-year-old business, complained the drilling forced the removal of key sales displays and disrupted his business on one of the Christmas season's busiest shopping days.

Waite said that landlord Jean Seto could have picked a better time to test for the repairs, but Seto's attorney David Blumenfeld told the *Bay Area Reporter* it was the only time that Seto had available and said the drilling would be completed before the business opened for the day. According to Blumenfeld, Waite had refused access to the property when earlier dates had been set.

The office supply store may be displaced sometime after the beginning of the year because of remodeling scheduled for the site, Waite said. Seto has offered an abatement of rent during the reconstruction, which also involved plumbing and electrical repair. ▼

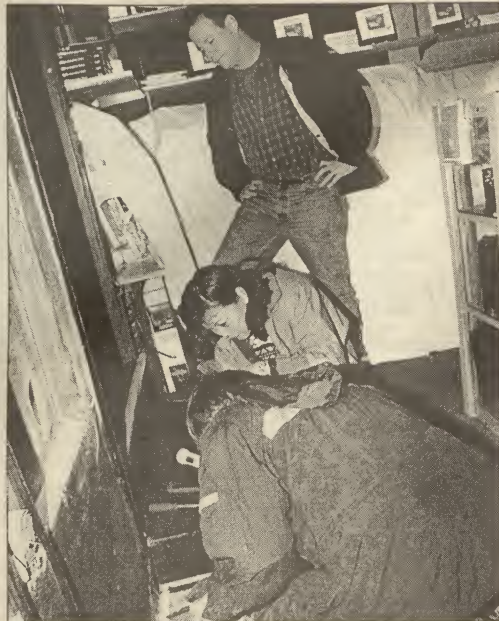


Photo: Gregory H. Flescher

Tenant tremors: Unhappy owner Wes Waite (standing) watches landlord Jean Seto and her husband Peter Kaiser drill at his place of business on Saturday, Dec. 23.

State Judge Declares Pot Petitions Are Okay

by Dennis Conkin

More than 30,000 petition signatures collected for a ballot initiative to legalize the medical use of marijuana are legal, a Sacramento Superior Court judge ruled Friday, December 22.

The decision by Judge James T. Ford orders San Francisco Registrar of Voters Germaine Wong to accept all petitions turned in by Dennis Peron, director of Californians For Compassionate Use, which sponsors the ballot initiative.

Ford said the initiative petition to be submitted directly to the voters "is in conformity with the Election Code in all respects, or has substantially complied with

all its requirements," and ordered a writ of mandate ordering Wong to accept the ruling.

Last month the registrar's office made an initial decision that the signatures would not be acceptable because the petition failed to present the language of the initiative in boldface type, and other technicalities.

"We're well on the road now that these first 30,000 signatures have withstood challenge," Peron said in a press statement. "These 30,000 signatures will turn into 600,000 by April. Victory next November will be ours."

"The people of California want compassionate access to marijuana for their sick and dying loved ones. The time of using patients as

pawns is over," he said.

Peron and co-proponent Bob Basker chose to place an initiative on the ballot after California legislators passed bills allowing doctors to prescribe marijuana out of medical necessity for people with chronic and terminal illness. Those measures were vetoed by right-wing Republican Governor Pete Wilson.

Initiative statutes, once qualified by and passed by popular vote, become state law immediately on passage and cannot be vetoed. ▼

For more information contact Californians For Compassionate Use at (415) 621-3696.

Touriffic Benefit Announced

by Mary Ann Swisler

Under One Roof and Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS will benefit from a Monday, January 15 staging of a cabaret show by the cast of the American classic musical *West Side Story*, now conducting its first tour of the United States since 1980.

"One Hand, One Heart," as the fundraising cabaret show is called, is the current company's first benefit since the tour began in September, although many of the performers have done benefits in the past, according to spokesperson Shannon Raffetto.



West Side Story cast members.

Photo: Joan Marcus

The show will take place at Club Fugazi, located at 678 Green Street, home of *Beach Blanket Babylon*, beginning at 8 p.m. Tickets are on sale at Club Fugazi and Under One Roof, or by phone at (415) 421-4222. Prices range from \$10 to \$30.

The non-profit store Under One Roof, located at 2362 Market Street, raises money for over 60 AIDS service organizations. Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS has raised millions of dollars for AIDS organizations, with a special emphasis on meeting the needs of theatre professionals with HIV, since 1987. ▼

Gay Kids To Head for Sacto Rally

by Dennis Conkin

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender youth will come from throughout California to Sacramento for a noon rally on the steps of the State Capitol this Wednesday, January 3.

They intend to bring attention to the needs of sexual minority youth in the face of conservative legislative repression and attacks on funding for queer youth programs, according to Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center spokesperson Anne Mattis.

Assembly Bill 1001, a measure introduced by California Assemblywoman Shiela Kuehl to provide protections for sexual minority youth in state-funded school systems, failed to get out of committee this year. The measure is up

for a committee vote again, Mattis said — but no public testimony is allowed.

Sexual minority youth will provide public testimony about their needs on the steps of the Capitol, and Mattis said they may also lobby on a one-to-one basis with individual legislators.

Several groups have chartered buses to Sacramento for the event, including LYRIC, which still has space available for youth under 23. One contingent is flying up from Los Angeles for the rally, Mattis said. ▼

For more information about transportation or about LYRIC contact the group's office at (415) 703-6150 or the Youth Talkline at (415) 863-3636.

Service with a Smile



Mr. Alameda Co. Leather '94 Randy Wright offers dessert to a mother and child at the AIDS Emergency Fund's Christmas Eve dinner in the Green Room of the War Memorial Bldg. Wright was just one of hundreds of volunteers who made the annual event a resounding success.

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Abbott Gets Okay for MAC Drug

United Press International

Abbott Laboratories said Wednesday, December 27 it has received approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to market a drug that reduces the death rate from a bacterial infection common in people with advanced AIDS.

Abbott said studies show the drug, trade-named "Biaxin," reduces mortality by 31 percent at six months and one year after the beginning of treatment, and by 20 percent at 18 months.

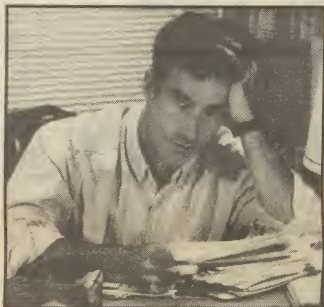
The drug, clarithromycin, is a preventive agent for disseminated Mycobacterium avium complex, or MAC. Abbott said MAC is the most common systemic bacterial infection in patients with advanced AIDS. It is characterized by fever, night sweats, weight loss or wasting, diarrhea, and abdominal pain.

Studies have shown, Abbott said, that while only three percent of those diagnosed with HIV have disseminated MAC at the time of diagnosis, up to 40 percent of those patients show clinical evidence of disseminated MAC within two years. And, MAC has been confirmed post-mortem in 50 percent of patients with advanced AIDS, the pharmaceutical company said.

"When used as a preventive agent, clarithromycin can reduce the risk of disseminated MAC," said Dr. Mark Pierce of the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. "The study has shown that prophylactic use of clarithromycin extends the lives of patients with advanced AIDS." ▼

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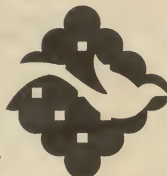
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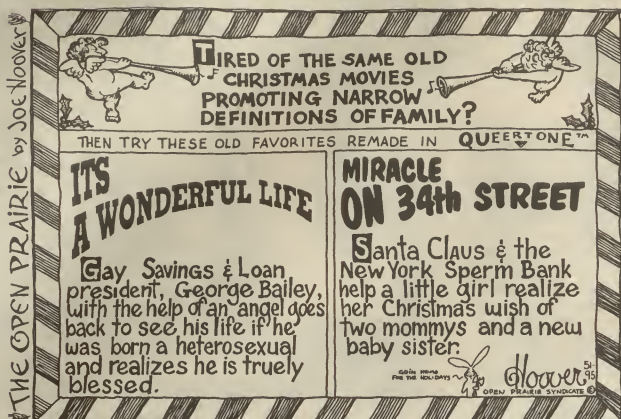
OPEN FORUM

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JOE HOOVER



EDITORIAL

What Are You Doing After New Year's Eve?

All the world's cultures may not be able to agree upon a single date when new years are born, but everyone enjoys marking that passage of time and the optimism it brings, whenever it happens. Most Americans traditionally look both backward and forward this Saturday night, but it seems clear that forward is the more important of the two.

The longterm legacies of 1995 are still too fresh and hot to be ready for scrutiny. Some of the things that now loom large — our current cowboy Congress, for instance — may be revealed later as just a slight hiccup that temporarily shook the body politic. Other things that seem all but meaningless — too tiny for now, in fact, to speculate on them by name — could turn out to be extremely important. In any case, 1995 will soon belong to the ages and historians: let them determine its significance.

But if 1995 belongs to historians, 1996 belongs to the rest of us. And that's why although New Year's Eve is fun and lovable — is there any other holiday that promises so much? — what we do after then, on the 365 days that follow, is much more important.

As we approached this holiday we asked some friends about their hopes for the new year. Almost all said they wanted to see a return to that famous San Francisco action/activity/activism of years' past — and then admitted to a kind of adolescent wallflower syndrome that keeps them from initiating it.

So perhaps this is a good time to consider making a resolution to be more resolved and more involved. And of course, activism can take many forms, from writing checks to candidates to writing letters to politicians to marching in the streets

for important causes.

The important thing is that many important things are on the horizon, including Supreme Court rulings on Amendment 2 and "Don't Ask, Don't Tell"; the possibility that research on HIV will catch up some against the virus; and maybe even the chance to marry each other.

It should be a fun year, too, particularly for fans of televised bloodsports. The dog-eat-dog world of politics is always entertaining, but when the dogs in question include Phil Gramm, Pat Buchanan, and Bob Dole, our interest is especially piqued. And considering how much America already resents and distrusts the GOP "leaders" they elected last time around, the end result of all that canine cannibalism is likely to be the nomination of an unelectable candidate! How jolly.

After that, if Bill Clinton does retain his hold on the White House, he might finally get confident enough to fight those who fight us. That would be a welcome change, to have the so-called leader of the free world insisting that this country extend its freedoms to lesbians and gays. It's too late for him to change the errors he made in 1995 — like running for cover on the Amendment 2 question, and filing against us in "Don't Ask" cases — but it isn't too late for him to be the president of all Americans in 1996.

Still, we can't expect Clinton to do all the work for us. It's up to us as individuals and a community to fight for our rights next year. As long as we aren't wallflowers we can change our world.

And if we can do all that for 1996, just think what we can accomplish in the coming millennium. ▼

GUEST OPINION

Habari Gani?

by David Housel

The celebration of Kwanzaa has much to offer everyone, especially those who have an inclusive notion of community, who struggle against the arbitrary and oppressive barriers that separate and limit us, and who are committed to a world view that is nurturing and accepting of individuality and diversity.

Kwanzaa has its roots in African harvest festivals and refers to the Swahili phrase *matunda ya kwanza*, meaning "first fruits of the harvest." It is a non-heroic holiday in that no single person, leader, or movement is glorified in the ceremonies. Rather, attention is focused upon a collective belief system and philosophy that stem from the communal life evidenced in many African societies. This ritualized introspection has become a mechanism of empowerment as African-Americans continue to struggle in the face of the racism, violence, and genocide that obstruct and threaten their very existence in this country.

The Kwanzaa ceremony generally begins with the host asking "Habari gani?" or "What is the news of the day?" Other participants respond with the name of the principle being honored that day — unity, self-determination, collective work and responsibility, cooperative economics, purpose, creativity, or faith. The candles on the *kinara* are lit with the recitation of the appropriate principles as each flame is ignited. The host then gives a description of the ceremonial objects and their meaning. After an open discussion of the importance that the principle of the day has in their daily lives and how they hope to incorporate the principle in meeting individual and community needs in the future, participants drink from a cup of unity, engage in a banquet feast, socialize, sing, or dance. All of these activities nurture a sense of community and interconnectedness that is sorely needed in our society where rugged individualism and self-sufficiency (bordering on selfishness and narcissism) are revered at the expense of alienating us from one another.

In a time of incredible racial tension and insensitive governmental interventions or indifference, does not the need for unity become more intense? In a society that tends toward oppressive homogeneity, does not the need for self-determination become more pressing? During an economic depression, do not collective work and responsibility and cooperative economics become imperative as more and more people are disenfranchised and marginalized? In a world of rapid change on many fronts, does one not need a sense of purpose or commitment to remain sane and functional? During the midst of a holocaust and misallocated resources, is there not a need for creativity to ensure our very survival? At a time where loss, grief, and omnipresent oppression in many guises have broken many people's spirits, do we not need faith that we will persevere, heal ourselves, and one day be whole? Obviously, as the above demonstrates, Kwanzaa does not have to be a "black" thing that others cannot understand. One just needs to be open and respectful of the experience.

There is a cadre of people who believe that Kwanzaa should remain a ceremony by, for, and about African-Americans. I am a white person who has had the unique opportunity of experiencing Kwanzaa many times. I came to the process from a point of respect, openness, and humility. I have learned many lessons from Kwanzaa that have enhanced my daily life, my relationships with others, and my commitment to anti-oppression work. In a similar way, I have experienced Passover Seder as a non-Jew. The subsequent understanding and respect for the integrity and perseverance of those who have endured such oppression gained from that sharing was transforming and did much to attack any racist or anti-Semitic feelings percolating inside me. Ceremonies like Kwanzaa or Seder can be tools in the seemingly unending struggle against oppression, racism, and ethnocentrism. ▼

The above appeared in a longer form in the *Men of All Colors Together/NY Newsletter*.

LETTERS

Attacking our caregivers

Regarding the letter from Michael J. Pawlik, MD, of the Kaiser Permanente Medical Group remarking on ACT UP Golden Gate's demonstration against Kaiser and the B.A.R. editor's snide response that Kaiser does a shitty job, not the doctor, please re-read Dr. Pawlik's letter which says at no time does "Doctor Kaiser Permanente" tell him how he can and cannot practice medicine.

My lover and I have had Kaiser for over 25 years. I was hospitalized for two weeks with a collapsed lung and never saw Kaiser skimp on service. We were both robbed and mugged one Sunday morning on our way to an AIDS Walk. He required stitches to the scalp and I had a dislocated shoulder requiring many treatments. Not once did we see Kaiser skimp on care or tests which our doctors felt were necessary. Unlike private practitioners who order all kinds of tests to cover their asses (at patient/insurer expense), Kaiser doctors only order tests that they deem necessary and, as a result, keep their HMO cost affordable.

As Pawlik indicated, he has many AIDS patients under his care with more being added continually and he treats each according to their needs and requirements, not what "Doctor Kaiser Permanente" dictates. What more does ACT UP/Golden Gate expect? We contribute to AIDS charities to our financial limits. Dr. Pawlik is giving of his time and skills to his maximum (he could make a lot more bucks in private practice). But to ACT UP/Golden Gate, this is not good enough. We have always admired ACT UP for its protests against government apathy and obscene profiteering by the pharmaceuticals but now, like wounded wild beasts, they are attacking their caregivers and nurturers.

I would suggest that ACT UP (AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power) change its name to ACT DOWN (AIDS Coalition To Denounce Our Worthy Nurturers).

P.S. I doubt that B.A.R. will print this letter, or if they do, it will be followed by an editor's snide response.

Bill Grove
San Francisco

The Kaiser System

I am writing in response to Dr. Pawlik's letter about the ACT UP/Golden Gate demonstration on World AIDS Day. First, never did anyone say Dr. Pawlik was doing a poor job. I wonder why he takes this demonstration against the Kaiser System so personally.

I joined ACT UP/Golden Gate five months ago because of the frustrating experiences I had with the Kaiser System. My friend Kris had AIDS and was a member of Kaiser.

The Kaiser System is a failure much of the time for patients with HIV. Kris was put on dapsone as a prophylaxis for PCP because of an allergic reaction to Bactrim. He was hospitalized with PCP and eventually de-sensitized to Bactrim much too late. In June of 1995 Kris was hospitalized again. He had lost a lot of weight (10 to 20% of his original body weight) and was having problems walking. They never found anything wrong, and he was discharged. In July of 1995 we went to the emergency room at the insistence of his ex-employer, an AIDS doctor elsewhere, and his own doctor in the Kaiser System. He could not walk and was shaking uncontrollably. We waited for nine hours before he was admitted, as doctor after doctor came in to see him. Again many tests were given and nothing was "wrong." I now realize he had wasting, but then Kaiser doesn't treat for wasting, so nothing would have been done anyway. Eventually Kris went into Coming Home Hospice. In November he began to have trouble with his left eye. One night he put his hand over his right eye and realized he was blind in his left eye. The next day he went to an ophthalmologist who told him this was just a natural progression of CMV Retinitis that had been diagnosed a year ago. Kris and another friend who was with Kris said he was never diagnosed with CMV. The doctor quickly shut the file and said that Kris had to take some of the blame because he missed his July eye exam. Of course it didn't matter that Kris had been in the hospital in July.

Yes, Dr. Pawlik, the Kaiser System has turned me into a "fanatical activist." I was employed for 15 years at the IRS before I retired on disability two years ago. I was pretty mainstream and hardly had a good foundation for my new career as "fanatical activist."

But I do know systems. And above all Kaiser is a "System."

Dr. Pawlik states that his care plan is based on knowledge, compassion, clinical experience and experience of other practitioners and that "Dr. Kaiser Permanente" has never told him how to practice. Oh? Can he get a bDNA test? How does he measure treatment for patients with T-cells under 50? It is quite accepted outside the Kaiser System to use this as a measure of what is going on with a patient's treatment. Can he prescribe Human Growth Hormone for wasting? That's one of those greedy pharmaceutical companies' expensive drugs that actually works. (Have they tried to work with those other greedy companies?) And certainly he can treat CMV as soon as it appears. Well, not according to Dr. Kaiser Permanente. Maybe Dr. Pawlik needs to say to his patients, "This treatment may keep you healthy and extend your life." Give the patient some choice.

One thing that isn't mentioned are the bonuses that Kaiser doctors get for prescribing the least expensive medicine, not the best, and keeping patients out of the hospital, even when they need it.

Dr. Pawlik says his oath is "above all else, do no harm." I think Kaiser's oath is "above all else, do no harm to our pocketbook."

Kris encouraged me to go to the demonstration on World AIDS Day because he couldn't. He died on December 6, 1995.

I am proud to be a new part of ACT UP/Golden Gate. We are unpaid volunteers who accept no money from drug companies. We work to gain access to treatment for people with AIDS. We work to help people with AIDS gain knowledge to make decisions with their doctors for their treatment. Dr. Pawlik has no need to fear AIDS activists, I hope.

ACT UP! Fight Back! Fight AIDS!

Fight for your lives. Fight excess profiteers.

Mike Donnelly
San Francisco

[The editor responds: Funny, Mr. Grove is happy...]

Facts of healthcare

As a Kaiser member of 41 years, originally as a benefit of my father's union membership, I have witnessed many attacks on Kaiser for supposedly being a communist plot. The latest attack on Kaiser by the government spy-infested ACT UP and by the California Nurses Association, many of whose members are friends and spouses of private-profit medical doctors, appears to be in that same reactionary tradition, since their motives are suspect. I witnessed a fellow Kaiser member who was a staunch union man and fighter for gay liberation die of AIDS after receiving all kinds of treatments and drugs from Kaiser, only one of which worked, namely the tranquilizer. They gave him everything available in 1986-89. The following has been true throughout the entire AIDS crisis and continues to be true:

(1) There is no cure for AIDS;

(2) AIDS is a phony construct of 29 old diseases, including TB and VD, which the CDC now calls AIDS if HIV happens to be present. We have many viruses present in our body, but TB and VD are always TB and VD, no matter what viruses are in our system;

(3) The AIDS crisis will only end when we have guaranteed, fully government-funded medical care for everyone, from cradle to grave.

I suggest ACT UP and CNA wake up to the facts of the AIDS crisis as stated above and concentrate their efforts on replacing the private profit healthcare system with a national healthcare system that guarantees healthcare to all.

Lee Heller
San Francisco

Stop substandard care

ACT UP/Golden Gate would like to thank the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Shanti, Project Inform, the People With AIDS Coalition, Mobilization Against AIDS, the Metropolitan Community Church, and many other groups that supported our World AIDS Day protest to improve patient care at Kaiser.

We would also like to thank all the Kaiser members who have called in their support. Our work to stop substandard care at Kaiser has come after years of calls from Kaiser members with AIDS who were denied crucial tests and treatments and watched loved ones die inside a system that seems to put money before patient health. As people with AIDS and Kaiser members, we have met with Kaiser administrators for years (most recently, just days before the protest) but patient care remains sub-standard for many PWAs.

For example, Kaiser refuses to give patients with wasting syndrome access to Human Growth Hormone, despite the fact that two of the three people with AIDS who die in San Francisco every day die of wasting complications. For many patients, Human Growth Hormone is the only available treatment that halts wasting and increases lean body mass, which researchers believe is crucial to improved survival. Even Medi-Cal, recognizing its importance, offers human growth hormone to patients with wasting syndrome. Kaiser refuses to pay for the drug because it says it is too expensive, but it does offer patients Thalidomide, which is highly experimental; there is little data to suggest that it can help patients increase lean body mass, but it is very cheap. Kaiser will apparently let patients die of malnutrition rather than give them the most effective treatment for wasting syndrome. At the same time, Kaiser physicians receive financial bonuses if they reduce the amount of money they spend on drugs and keep people, even sick people, out of the hospital. How much money is the life of a person with AIDS worth?

Kaiser has also failed to institute a recommended standard of care for HIV disease. Consequently, many people with AIDS fail to receive crucial screening and diagnostic tests that let them know whether they have pneumocystis pneumonia and other problems.

Michael Lauro, Kate Krauss, and Bill Thorne,
ACT UP/Golden Gate

(ACT UP/Golden Gate is not affiliated with ACT UP/San Francisco)

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...a collaborator.]"

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LETTERS

With a huff and a puff ...

Correction! The ARC/AIDS Vigil wasn't blown down [as mentioned in the editorial of December 14]. The HIV Vigil-SF was blown down. Those who loved the ARC/AIDS Vigil are alive and well. We would have put the tents right back up, unlike the present tenants.

**William Davis
San Francisco**

Nasty campaigning

The headline in the *Chronicle* of December 14, 1995 said: "Jordan Lacked Nastiness ... Now Lacks a Job." Then followed some words by the typical political consultant who cannot possibly be held responsible for his candidate's loss, Clint Reilly, who said that the shower Jordan took with the two disc jockeys in large part cost him the election.

In short, Clint tried to blame the candidate's wife and the candidate for the loss. When are sniveling consultants going to take responsibility for their actions? This is the same guy who abandoned Dianne Feinstein in the middle of her campaign for governor while she was in the hospital!

This is the same guy who cut Kathleen Brown's television ads the weekend before election day so he would be paid first, rather than placing priority for his client and candidate.

It was Reilly's decision to turn to racist overtures with dark pictures of Willie Brown and "Mistrust" splattered all over the city. I am sure he felt what he did for Dick Riordan, now the mayor of L.A. and former Reilly client, in running subtle but racist material against then-City Councilman Mike Woo, would work for Jordan against Willie Brown.

Thank God the voters of San Francisco rejected racism. But the issue is not over. We as citizens must continue to be vigilant over these types of consultants who will say anything, do anything to win, even if it sparks fear and division. What happened to morality and ethics and responsibility for one's actions?

As San Franciscans we are known around the world for our tolerance of diversity in race, ethnicity, gender, and sexual orientations. All the millions Clint Reilly has made off candidates should be used to fund tolerance seminars and send the message that this type of intolerance will not be accepted in our city or state.

We have made tremendous gains in San Francisco, but we must keep our eyes open, because nastiness in campaigning can bring us closer to destroying the very fabric which has made San Francisco a great city.

**Ron Hill
San Francisco**

Dishing Migden

Unlike J. Eberhardt and Jim Prevo in Letters to the Editor (*B.A.R.*, 12/14), I don't have any trouble blaming Carole Migden for Roberta Achtenberg's defeat. If Brown had gotten the 3.6% of the gay vote Roberta got in Bayview-Hunters Point, Roberta would be mayor now. Carole Migden and half of institutional gaydom chose a straight candidate over an extremely qualified and popular lesbian one. It is unreasonable for them now to pretend they did not do that.

Come on, guys: you won! You all get better jobs. Stop asking us to love you for it. To many people, the Brown-Migden "team" looks like a poor trade for Mayor Achtenberg and Assemblyperson Fill-In-The-Blank. Brown may yet deliver, but before cashing those checks from Sacramento look at the shambles he left the Assembly in: the Republicans are now led by Hurt instead of Brulte, two moderate Republicans have been replaced by ultraconservatives, and the GOP's majority is bigger than ever. In his one year as an opposition politician, Brown's ego-driven incompetence was astounding. Does anyone really believe the Republican Assembly will now be less petty and vindictive than Brown was?

I have voted for Carole Migden three times. If I don't support her anymore, it's not out of bitterness over Achtenberg's loss. That was surprisingly easy to take, because the election proved that straight San Franciscans are finally ready to elect a gay person to citywide office, regardless of what Brown and Dick Pabich and the Harvey Milk Club say. I'm against Migden because I don't like her ethics. Jim Prevo puts down "dishy gossip from second- and third-hand sources," so here's some first-hand dishy gossip:

One evening I saw Carole Migden and a friend pull up to the Women's Building in a Porsche and park in a bus stop. When a metermaid happened along and started writing them a ticket, Carole said, "We're on official business."

As it happened, Migden was there for a fundraiser, so she was lying about the "official business." Okay, it's not Abscam or the Keating Five, but she threw her weight around and she lied. This may be no big deal to Demo club members who are used to seeing this kind of behavior. To me, though, it reinforces my opinion of politicians like Migden (and Pelosi) who come up through fundraising, climb the organizational ladder until they're anointed the club's next candidate (and if the system is working, an unopposed one). I feel embarrassed for having supported Migden before simply because she was lesbian. Now that she herself has let me off that hook, I won't make that mistake again.

**Steven Karpa
Vallejo, CA**

Coming together over Crypto

After reading the Dennis Conkin report on the Cryptosporidium Task Force (*B.A.R.*, 12/7/95), I've become motivated to write. I am a Registered Nurse, member of the Crypto Task Force and a PWA who has survived Cryptosporidiosis (the disease caused by the parasite *Cryptosporidium Parvum*). The effects of this parasite on members of our community concerns me greatly, both on a personal and a professional level. This disease is serious and frequently fatal.

I understand it's occasionally necessary for a reporter to cover a story without actually being there, but I do have difficulty understanding the use of quotes from people who also weren't there. This unfortunately resulted in slanted coverage. Let me also point out that several community activists were appointed members of the Task Force and none of them were quoted.

While I agree with many of the concerns of my friends in ACT UP, I am very disappointed that Supervisor Carole Migden is being scapegoated for "deserting us on this issue." Carole Migden led the effort to bring this issue out of the shadows and into City Hall. She sponsored the legislation that created the Crypto Task Force and took the initiative to insure that our community was well represented on it. It was through the leadership of Carole Migden that the AIDS Office agreed to a pamphlet warning of the possible risk of Crypto from our tap water. In addition, the Health Dept. has committed to education and outreach efforts in our community. The important thing to remember is that the Crypto Task Force was only the beginning of coming to grips with Crypto. The work will go on. Doctors must be educated and reminded to test for Crypto in HIV+ patients with diarrhea. Accurate and complete numbers will help define the scope of this problem. Carole Migden's office is currently working with bottled water companies to get bottled water routinely tested to determine which brands are Crypto-safe. Some of us from the Task Force are helping in this effort.

I'm grateful to Carole Migden for opening the door on this issue. We need to go forward in a positive and constructive manner to improve the lives and reduce the Crypto exposure risks for our PWAs and HIV+. Attacking people who step forward to work on the problems besetting us does not help PWAs. No one is to blame for Crypto. We do need to take responsibility for responding to it. Blame, mudslinging, and slanted articles seriously impede our ability to go from the Crypto Task Force stage to the next level of response to this crisis. I hope we can come together to look for solutions to Crypto as a health problem and not a political weapon. People's lives depend on it.

**Tony Leone, RN
San Francisco**

Music to our ears

Thanks for enhancing your Arts and Entertainment crew with the ever-wonderful Stephanie von Buchau—one of the best music critics in the U.S.

**Don Blake
San Francisco**

Choral commemorations

Over the weekend it was my joy to attend two concerts: the S.F. Gay Men's Chorus' "Angels" at the Masonic Auditorium, and the Winds of Freedom Band's "Dance-Along Nutcracker" at Yerba Buena Gardens. Both entertainments were excellent — although I long for the good old days when tickets were \$5 a shot. In addition to their superb music, the Chorus did a very humane thing: their program included an "In Memoriam" listing of their 168 dead as well as a second memorial in the foyer called "Fifth Section" — paper angels displayed for each former chorister. But the Band? Nothing, not a word about losses. I know Jon Sims has died. Is it possible that he's the only musician downed by the current scourge?

**Lawrence W. Smith
Oakland**

Thanking Coming Home Hospice

I want to write to publicly thank the staff of Coming Home Hospice for their care and kindness. My best friend was a resident at Coming Home from September until his death in early December. During that time, I came to know the staff as individuals and the support they gave Kris and me was incredible. The staff was without exception caring and compassionate through the entire ordeal. When the end finally came, they helped not only Kris, but me as well. Although words are not sufficient for me to express my gratitude, I want nonetheless to declare my appreciation.

**Thomas Lindsay
San Francisco**

The *B.A.R.* welcomes most signed and mailed letters to the editor, but long-winded self-aggrandizing letters invariably bore the hell out of readers — and will be thrown away at once from now on.

Faxed and anonymous letters will not be run; handwritten letters will be run only if they are legible. Please include your phone number for verification; we will not print that information, except in some rare occasions you ask us to.

WAYNE FRIDAY



The Tenderloin Tessie Holiday Dinners' Jim Blinzer (right) and A.L. Allen honored outgoing state Senator Milton Marks (left) with a certificate of appreciation for all he's done on behalf of the group at their annual Christmas dinner at the First Unitarian Universal Church.

Photo: Mary Ann Swisher

Leader of the Pack

Next Monday rings in a new year, 1996, a presidential election year. Although the campaign has been percolating for nearly an entire year, we are now *really* off and running.

With the Democratic incumbent's popularity suddenly rising again, the tussle among the GOP hopefuls will surely become a bitterly fought, mean-spirited battle — "moderates" (like **Bob Dole**) vs. the more right-wing factions. So how do the Republican candidates stack up as we enter the fray?

Kansas Senator Dole is still the GOP favorite to win the August nomination in San Diego, but so far *none* of the Republican hopefuls is catching fire with the voters. Bob Dole, who would be 73 by the time he took office, has seemingly locked up most of the big-name party endorsements; has the most money (he has more cash on hand than all the other GOP candidates combined, except, of course, multimillionaire **Steve Forbes**); and has adopted the so-called "Rose Garden strategy": work hard, play up his role as senate majority leader, and make no spontaneous statements if he can avoid it (thereby not landing in any political hot water).

Even Dole's campaign people privately admit that much of the senator's poll support is soft, and many think he's too old to take on Bill Clinton, particularly in nationally televised debates. His recent waffle on the anti-abortion debate alarmed some of the party's far-right zealots, like **Ralph Reed** of the Christian Coalition. However, if Dole wins convincingly in New Hampshire, it will probably be him — and maybe **Colin Powell** — against Clinton and **Al Gore** next November. (Yes, I know General Powell says he want no part of elective politics "for the time being," but don't be surprised at a change of heart if Dole comes calling.)

As for the rest of the field, Texas Senator **Phil Gramm** still hopes to raise money from his Lone Star oil cronies to stay competitive in the primaries until the so-called "Southern Super Tuesday" March 12. On that day 358 delegates will be chosen in Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Texas. Gramm should do well there if he can only make it through the next couple months.

Former Tennessee Gov. **Lamar Alexander** has been running for nearly a year as a "Washington outsider," but despite constant campaigning and raising a respectable amount of money, he

is still very much a long shot. He would no doubt only become a player if Dole's campaign were to somehow completely collapse.

Other GOP hopefuls have even bigger problems than either Gramm or Alexander. Indiana Senator **Richard Lugar**, probably the brightest of the bunch, has run a lackluster effort and will probably not last until the August con-

Commentary

vention. Television commentator and notorious homophobe **Pat Buchanan** will likely do well in New Hampshire and possibly Florida, but he, too, will fall before the GOP meets to pick its nominee. Conservative black radio commentator **Alan Keys** and California's right-wing Representative **Bob Dornan** are taken seriously by no one. Dornan, in fact, is expected to drop out after the first of the year so as not to jeopardize his congressional seat.

The one "new" face that Bob Dole should be watching, however, is publishing magnate **Steve Forbes**. Mr. Forbes pledges to spend up to \$25 million of his own money and could end up as Dole's only GOP opponent in the all-important New York primary. Mr. Forbes is a resident of New Jersey, and, of course, the Forbes name is particularly well-known in its neighboring state.

With all of Bob Dole's careful handling, the majority leader is not above making serious political errors. Witness the Log Cabin check snafu and the *Meet the Press* abortion debacle.

Furthermore, on that same television show, Dole raised the temperatures of **Jesse Helms**, **Ralph Reed**, **Phyllis Schlafly**, and their ilk when he suggested that he might indeed ask **Colin Powell** to be his running mate. When you add to all that the likelihood that one **Ross Perot** will again be on the ballot in most states as the nominee of his new Reform Party, the GOP nomination just might not be worth a hill of beans to Bob Dole or anyone else.

Politics and people

The City Hall rumor mill has it that some of Mayor **Frank Jordan**'s friends are already urging him to take a look at state Senator **Quentin Kopp**'s seat when Kopp is forced out by term limits.

You may never hear from him again, but you should know that a

gay man, Washington, D.C. AIDS activist **Steve Michael**, has qualified as a Democratic presidential candidate (along with Bill Clinton and 19 other Dems) for the New Hampshire primary. Michael: "While the nation is focused on New Hampshire, this is a good time to focus voters on the AIDS crisis and on Bill Clinton's failure to live up to his 1992 campaign promises on AIDS."

Every politician's dream: Recently elected Rep. **Tom Campbell**, despite having spent \$1.6 million on his successful San Jose area race against **Jerry Estruth**, has \$250,000 left over, sure making it difficult for anyone to think about opposing him next November.

Hey, whatta guy! Governor **Pete Wilson** "quietly" turned down his \$6,000 pay raise. I thought "quietly" meant you did something without fanfare. Well, that's how his press spokesperson put it at any rate. Still his current \$120,000 plus perks sounds pretty good to me.

Supervisor **Carole Migden** will win the Assembly seat vacated by Mayor-Elect **Willie Brown**. I'll wager my first-born on it.

Incidentally, LA Assemblyman **Richard Katz**, a pro-gay protégé of Brown's in Sacramento for many years, was chosen last week to succeed our incoming mayor as the Assembly's Democratic leader.

Everyone at City Hall is pointing fingers at the collapse of district elections (too damned many confusing options). Why not just go back to 11 district seats?

Next to Willie Brown and **Terence Hallinan**, the big winner on December 12 was definitely campaign consultant **Jack Davis** — still the best around.

Meanwhile, the new downtown ball-park plan looks good to me. The same goes for Senator **Barbara Boxer**'s advocating that both Congress and the president should be denied their paychecks until they deliver a budget. Bravo, Babs!

My Quote of the Week is from **Sharon Neguchi** of the *San Jose Mercury News* on Willie Brown's victory: "It has been so long, since **Joe Alioto** in the '60s, that San Francisco has had a mayor befitting its elegance. If nothing else, the reign of Emperor Brown will offer good theater, attract world attention, and be conducted in impeccable style. What could be more quintessentially San Francisco?"

Happy New Year everyone! Have a safe one! ▼



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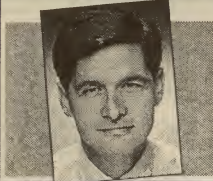
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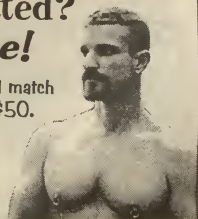
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SAPPHISTICATION

History Mystery

by Beth Elliott

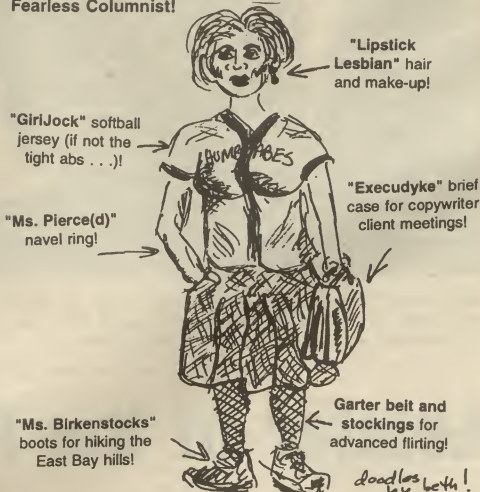
Quite a century this has been, this 20th (by the Christian and now common calendar). When the odometer kicks over, we'll likely have it up to here with the clichés about going from the horse and buggy to the moon landing. Myself, I've always been much more fascinated by the people who have been around to see all those changes, the living historians among us.

Commentary

As we roll toward the 21st century, we lose more and more of them. I remember reading about as a child, and seeing on television, the occasional centenarian Civil War veteran or ex-slave; they've been gone for some time now. The gathering of Quake and Fire survivors at Lotta's Fountain before dawn every April 18 is not long for this world (we note the recent passing, at age 109, of native son Sidney Amber).

I inherited this appreciation. The women in my family routinely delayed motherhood till after 30, and the first- and second-hand stories I grew up with reach back into the 19th century. I thus grew up with a strong sense of being both an individual and the next in a line of lively and adventurous folks. I was also just old enough to pay attention when taken for the last ride on this ferry line or that passenger train. I cherish the gift of perspective my ancestors have given me; among other things, it's

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prepared me for my own old age, when I'll no doubt pass along my Stonewall-era memories and the stories told me by my mentors.

Difficult task

And so the roundabout lead-in circles to this week's task, one — alas — no doubt doomed to failure: the search for any old photos of a woman who won't even make it into a footnote of lesbian history, but left someone behind eager for any connection with her.

The only thing of note that San Francisco native Beverley Jean Luce did was serve one year as president of the local chapter of the Daughters of Bilitis. By the end of her term, she had alienated many people; she was an alcoholic, neurotic, and a compulsive talker, sometimes crude. In retrospect, she was probably wildly bipolar. And, having straddled the fence between coming out and staying in the closet for ten years till the '70s brought an upsurge of lesbian pride, she was very much a victim of a more homophobic era — one whose first- and second-hand stories live in women around you.

For as dreadful as her company could be, Bev had a very caring side. I'm trying here to repay a debt I owe her for giving me an alternative to being out on the streets when, in 1971, I left my parents' house suddenly and under a cloud. I didn't last the summer in her flat, but she enabled me to land on my feet.

Somehow, we remained friends, and I quickly came to understand how she had accumulated the pain she too often tried to numb with alcohol. Her mother had committed suicide when Bev was a child. After being caught up in a garden variety gay bar raid, Bev lost a cherished job as a playground director.

Later, while working at a liquor store in the Mission, she bet a home-cooked meal on the baseball All-Star game with the local beat cop. She lost; after dinner and too many drinks, she ended up in a compromising situation — and pregnant. A lifelong Catholic, she would not consider abortion. After wearing heavy coats to hide her pregnancy in shame from her family, she put her daughter up for adoption.

Now, this is someone who loved children; she had now lost both her job working with them and her own child. In the time I

knew her, she fell into a deep depression each year around Tammi's birthday, and could never speak of her without her eyes misting.

Positive change

Being elected president of the D.O.B. was something that gave Bev self-esteem for the first time in her life. Of course, someone had to undercut her again, this time her spiritual counselors, shocked that she would peacefully accept her sexuality.

Even so, in the spring of 1974, Bev seemed to have turned a corner. We had a visit during which she actually shut up and listened, and understood this was a positive change. A month later, after no answers to my repeated phone calls, I went past her house. There was a coroner's seal on the door. Bev had given up and shot herself in the head.

I somehow kept from going over the edge myself in 1974. Eighteen years later, I faced the challenge of seeing my father and making peace before he died. As other hurtful things were happening concurrently, I was left emotionally exhausted. A week after the funeral, I got a telephone message from Tammi, looking for information on her birth mother. I thought of how much it would have meant to Bev to have known her daughter always thought about her, and would come looking for her once she'd grown up. And I cried for her again.

After a fruitless search of my files (and the Historical Society's), I called old friends to see if anyone had any photos of Bev to give Tammi. Everyone I called, even Phyllis and Del, was stunned to hear she'd ever had a baby. I was the only one who'd ever known — news that compounded my grief and stress past bearability.

I recovered, just as Tammi (raised in a Christian home) got over hearing, simultaneously, of her birth mother's lesbianism and suicide. She's a fine, fine young woman who got gay-positive in a big hurry. And I'm hoping against hope that someone who reads this column will find an old photo tucked away somewhere to share with Tammi. Send them to Tammi Grier, 21121 Canyon View Drive, Saratoga CA 95070.

And say a prayer, or light a candle, for her birth mother: one of our tragic stories, a sister far too fragile for her time. ▼

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Start Your New Year Right

by Mary Ann Swissler

If resolving to make your money work for you, without spending a lot of money doing it, is one of your New Year's Resolutions, a ten-hour financial planning seminar sponsored by the East Bay Pride Alliance is a good bet. The ten-week, \$49 workshop "Financial Strategies for Successful Retirement Planning" will donate \$35 of each admission ticket to the tax-deductible Pacific Center for Human Growth in Berkeley. The Pacific Center was founded in 1973 and is the oldest community center in the East Bay, as well as in Northern California, providing gay-friendly family counseling, peer support groups, HIV/AIDS services, and other services for the les/bi/gay/trans-gender community.

Financial planner Denise Petersen, who will present the workshop, told the B.A.R., "Our goal is to get as many people there as possible so we can raise as much money as possible for the Pacific Center." She added that attorney Carl Wolf will deliver the materials on estate planning.

The seminar will include information on investments, pension options, estate planning, lifestyle issues, long-term health-care, and social security and Medicare.

Those interested can either take it on two consecutive Saturdays on January 20 and 27 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Berkeley Conference Center, or four separate Thursdays. The weekday sessions will run on January 18 and 25, and February 1 and 8, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at Cal Cap Bldg., located at 22634 Second St. in Hayward. Admission does not include a \$30 workbook fee.

To register call (510) 548-8283, or mail to: PCHG, 2712 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley CA 94705.

In other New Year's news, beginning the first of January, the first lesbian publication to make a serious run at a national lesbian audience, San Francisco-based *Deneuve Magazine*, will hence be known as *Curve Magazine*.

Industry sources confirmed that the reason behind the name change was Mademoiselle Cather-

ine Deneuve - who promised to slap a lawsuit on the magazine unless they found another namesake.

Speaking of lawsuits, U.S. District Judge Mary Little Parell granted a motion Monday, December 18 for a preliminary injunction preventing the gay "Rainbow Card Foundation" charity from using that trade name in the New York/New Jersey area.

OUT for business

A lawsuit against the Rainbow Card Foundation had been filed by attorneys for "Rainbow Foundation Inc.," a statewide New Jersey charity based in Middletown that has provided medical help, financial assistance, and shelter to ailing New Jersey children for more than ten years, to stop the use of its confusingly similar name.

Rainbow Card Foundation is a charitable organization affiliated with the Rainbow Card, a Visa credit card, targeted at gay and lesbian consumers. Tennis star Martina Navratilova is the card's unpaid spokesperson. Proceeds from the card will benefit gay and lesbian causes, including the National Center for Lesbian Rights, AIDS, and breast cancer research.

"Their causes are not our causes," Rainbow Foundation's attorney Robert S. Bonney Jr. said when filing the motion for an injunction. "To have someone with celebrity status using a similar trademark will confuse our potential contributors."

Rainbow Foundation had argued that the dual use of the name could severely undermine its ability to raise funds and provide assistance to needy children. Rainbow Foundation raised more than \$250,000 last year from individuals and corporate sponsors. With cuts in government programs, it is competing more aggressively than ever for donations.

"Such things as good will, reputation, name recognition, and the causes you champion make a tremendous difference in the abil-

ity of a charity to obtain the financial support of individuals, corporations, and other philanthropic organizations," said Margaret B. Karaban, president and executive director of the Rainbow Foundation, in her affidavit to the U.S. District Court in Trenton.

In her ruling, Judge Parell agreed, saying Rainbow Foundation's efforts to acquire contributions in the NY/NJ area will be "irreparably harmed" by the continued use of the name in the area by Rainbow Card Foundation.

The preliminary injunction prevents Rainbow Card Foundation from using that name in the State of New Jersey, New York City, Rockland and Westchester counties of New York State, and Fairfield County, Connecticut.

"The foundation is very pleased that 12 years of its work in establishing its name and reputation as a charity for children has been recognized by the court, and will not now be diminished by possible confusion," Bonney said after the ruling.

The Center for Disease Control has published a directory aimed at employers who want to avoid discriminating against HIV-positive employees. The free, **Business Guide For HIV-Positive Employees** is available to managers or to employees who want more information about their rights. It can be ordered by calling the CDC at 1-800-458-5231. ▼

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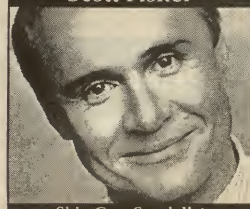
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Attack

Continued from page 1

tim whether the acid had been placed around the hole or it was thrown on him."

Addison also reported that after one of the victims was injured, a Frenchy's K&T employee flatly refused to let him use the bathroom to attend to his genital injury.

"He had to buy a can of Coke and pour it onto his penis," Addison said.

One man sought medical treatment for his injuries, which included open sores, she said.

One victim has said his injury is slow to heal, because erections cause the scabs from the bleeding burns to break open.

Bring a towlette

According to Addison, CUAV is working with the Frenchy's regional management about the incident and ways of responding if similar situations occur.

She said the company would board up the glory holes but also said that Community United Against Violence "had no problem" if people wished to use glory holes for sexual contact.

She said that patrons of such establishments should be aware of the potential dangers and use discretion.

Addison recommended that people also educate themselves with first aid tips and carry materials like moist towlettes.

Addison told the Bay Area Reporter that the suspect is described as approximately 35-38 years old, has reddish-brown hair, is approximately 5'11" tall, dresses nicely - and is uncircumcised. ▼

Anyone with information should contact Community United Against Violence at (415) 777-5500 or Inspector Ken King of the SF Police General Works Bureau at (415) 554-1141.



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Singled In, For Once

by Al Kielwasser

MTV has announced that lesbians and gays will be included in at least one episode of the network's dating game show, *Singled Out*. The Akron Beacon Journal reported December 12 that *Singled Out* will have "an all-gay audience for one show, giving one man and one woman the chance to land a same-sex date."

Even if limited to a single broadcast, MTV's progressive move represents a major media milestone. The "mainstream," commercial networks have never included lesbians or gays on any of television's myriad relationship shows. From *The Dating Game* to *Love Connection*, all such popular shows have been fiercely heterosexual.

For lesbians or gay men, visible affection has been a long-standing television taboo. As a past issue of *Entertainment Weekly* (June 10, 1994) opined, homosexuals on television are "turning up regularly ... but when it comes to romance it's all talk and no action."

In each episode of *Singled Out* contestants employ various techniques to "weed out" a date from a large group of contenders. According to the MTV's official, original synopsis: "*Singled Out* is the ultimate relationship show where contestants get a chance to choose their ideal mate from a studio audience filled with the opposite sex." Now — for once, at least — the same sex will be included too.

To send supportive feedback, contact Judy McGrath, President, MTV Networks, Inc., 1515 Broadway, New York NY 10036, tel. 212-258-8712, fax 212-258-8718, e-mail feedback@mtv.com or mtvmail@aol.com; America OnLine users can also post compliments directly to AOL's MTV message area (keyword: MTV).

SPOUSAL SUPPORT ...Despite ABC's paranoid rescheduling of the show, *Roseanne*'s December 12 broadcast still carried an affirmative message of gay love. The episode — "December Bride" — centered on the wedding of recurring character "Leon" and his lover "Scott."

To viewers that complained about ABC's decision to broadcast the show at a later time (in order to

"protect" children), the company has responded: "The show was not pushed back because of the homosexual wedding between the characters played by Martin Mull and Fred Willard, but due to the adult humor that was sprinkled throughout the episode."

That excuse appears disingenuous at best, especially since other 8 p.m. sitcoms on ABC have featured much more "adult" — but significantly heterosexual — humor.

In any event, the advertisers who bought time during the controversial broadcast are bound to catch flack from homophobic media watchdog groups like the American Family Association. Companies supporting the "December Bride" episode included: Denny's, 20th Century Fox, TriStar, Universal Studios, Stetson Cologne, Pillsbury, Taco Bell, and Fox Home Video.

To counter the hate mail, you can compliment those companies that supported this *Roseanne* episode. Contact: Denny's, Paul Tierney, Chair, Flagstar Companies, Inc., 203 E. Main St., Spartanburg, SC 29319, tel. 803-597-8000; Universal Studios, Kirk Nakamura, Chair, Matsushita Electric Corp., 1 Panasonic Way, Secaucus NJ 07094, tel. 800-447-4700; Taco Bell, Wayne Calloway, Chair, PepsiCo, 700 Anderson Hill Rd., Purchase NY 10577, tel. 914-253-2000, fax 914-253-2070; 20th Century Fox, Rupert Murdoch, Chair, News America Publishing, Inc., 1211 Ave. of the Americas, New York NY 10036, tel. 212-852-7000; Stetson Colognes, Thomas Bonoma, Pres., Benckiser Consumer Products, 55 Federal Rd., Danbury CT 06813, tel. 203-731-5000, fax 203-790-0778; Pillsbury, George Bull, Chair, Grand Metropolitan, Inc., 712 5th Ave., Ste. 4600, New York NY 10019, tel. 212-554-9200, fax 212-554-9246; TriStar Pictures, Masaki Morita, Chair, Sony Corp. of America, 1 Sony Dr., Park Ridge NJ 07656, tel. 201-930-1000, fax 201-358-4060.

Comments for ABC should be directed to Ted Harbert, President, ABC Entertainment, 2040 Ave. of the Stars, Los Angeles CA 90067, tel. 310-557-7777, e-mail abcaudr@ccabc.com.

PARADING IT ...Lynn Minton writes a weekly column, "Fresh Voices," that provides a forum for youth discussions of current events. Minton's column appears in *Parade Magazine*, a popular supplement included in Sunday newspapers across the nation.

The December 10 edition of "Fresh Voices" examined the issue of "'Special Rights' and Affirmative Action." For this column, Minton featured the perspectives of five teens. Her chorus of "fresh voices" was composed of one woman, three whites, and two African-American men. Four participants were 17 years old; one young man was 18.

One of the (white, 17-year-old) boys, Sean, opened the discussion by arguing: "I am against all special rights for minorities. ... I also believe that gays should not have special rights. Certain cities in Colorado have a law which gives gays special status as a minority in college, in hiring situations or whatever. And I'm not for that."

Significantly, Minton interjected: "Are you talking about ... policies which grant preferences ... or are you talking about the laws that say you can't discriminate against someone because of their sexual orientation — like the laws that say you can't discrimi-

nate on the basis of race, religion, national origin, or gender?" Sean admitted he was "not familiar with the exact laws," and added: "It's just what I've been told. I thought they granted some sort of 'special rights' status for gays."

Sean also insisted: "We already have anti-discrimination in the Constitution. That's the basic premise we are founded on — that we are all created equal." To which a savvy Amanda (the lone female) replied: "But when they said, 'All men are created equal,' they meant except blacks, women and homosexuals. ... Our society has a long way to go ... before we're on equal ground." She added: "As for homosexuals, they're not asking for special rights, they're asking to be equal."

The other youths tended to agree, for the most part, with Amanda. Most took eloquent stands against homophobia and racism. Rob, one of the young African-American men, admitted that "Homosexuality goes against everything I've ever been taught. But," he said, "I really don't see why people should discriminate because of it."

While Sean persisted (however more hesitantly) with his "no special rights for gays" rhetoric, Rob was given the last word. The column concluded with Rob's retort to Sean: "As for 'special rights,' there was a time in our history when it was considered a 'special right' for a black person just to walk down the street."

Today — at a time when so many adults are deceived by the fallacy of "special rights" (especially through insidious efforts to pit ethnicity against sexual orientation) — Minton's contribution to helping children towards clarity is particularly admirable. In several past columns, as well, Minton has provided similarly accurate and affirmative coverage.

Praise can be directed to Lynn Minton, Box 5103, Grand Central Station, New York NY 10163-5103 (Minton especially seeks feedback from teens); copy your compliments to Carlo Vittorini, Chair and Publisher, *Parade*, Parade Publications, 711 Third Avenue, New York NY 10017.

TALKING ABOUT TALKING ...Offering a positive spin to the frenzied rhetoric of "anti-sleaze" TV critics, two recent magazine articles examine the talk-show phenomenon from popular and academic perspectives, respectively. In the January/February 1996 issue of *Utne Reader*, Joshua Gamson, a gay Yale sociology professor, deftly deconstructs the peril and the promise of TV talk — specifically in regard to queer subjects. According to Gamson, "To speak for and about yourself as a gay man or a lesbian on television, to break silences that are systematically and ubiquitously enforced in public life, is profoundly political. ... TV talk shows may be crass and voyeuristic," the essay concludes, "but they give a voice to those who have been silenced." Contact: *Utne Reader*, 1624 Harma Place, Suite 330, Minneapolis MN 55403, tel. 612-338-5040.

TRASH ...On a much "lighter" side, journalist A. J. Jacobs provides a popular gloss on "Talkin' Trash," in *Entertainment Weekly*'s December 8 issue. The author spoons up "five reasons why Montel, Ricki, Sally, and Geraldo don't stink." Reason No. 2: "They Break New Ground." Contact: "Entertainment Weekly," 1675 Broadway, New York NY 10019.▼

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Arraignment Delayed in Water Sports Film Case

'Bad Brad' Probably Won't Make It to Court

by John McCloud

Illness forced postponement of the early December arraignment of Los Angeles gay filmmaker and photographer Brad Braverman on charges of distributing obscenity. According to his attorney, Nanci Clarence of Steel, Clarence & Buckley in San Francisco, the artist probably will never make it to court.

"His condition is very serious," Clarence told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "At one point several weeks ago, we thought he was going to die, but he pulled 'round.'"

A show of the artist's photographs recently ran at Mark I. Chester Gallery on Folsom Street. Despite his illness, Braverman appeared at the show's opening in November. He was hospitalized shortly thereafter.

The charges follow a Los Angeles Police Department raid on Braverman's Silverlake studio in September, in which they confiscated his computer, files, office equipment, and prints of his films. Known in the porn world as "Bad Brad," Braverman produced and directed such films as *disconnected*, *fetish* and *hush*, as well as *pissed*, the film that prompted the police action. His most recent film, *RAW/shocked*, screened this summer at a museum in Kansas City.

Braverman's publicist Craig Whitman told the *B.A.R.* the raid

occurred after someone from the LAPD vice squad ordered a copy of *pissed* and deemed it obscene. Based on images from Robert Mapplethorpe and other photographers, *pissed* shows scenes of men urinating on and into other men.

The kind of vice squad sting that netted Braverman is unfortunately not an uncommon occurrence in L.A., according to Whitman.

"They're not just going after Brad," he asserted. "This is just the tip of the iceberg. There's so much going on that people don't know about."

Clarence, who also represents Falcon Studios in its legal affairs, agreed obscenity cases are on the rise, and "not just" in Southern California. "It's a growth year in obscenity prosecutions," she said with irony, noting her firm has several related cases awaiting official action. "We do a lot of First Amendment-related work. It seems officials at every level are getting much more interested in pursuing these cases."

Clarence has no idea why the police targeted Bad Brad. "That question always baffles me. Prosecutors don't ponder the why. I think it just crossed their radar screen, and they acted," she said.

"That's the problem with obscenity: there's always selectivity. That's why it's a dangerous law, to let the vice squad decide who gets

prosecuted and who doesn't," she said. "It's a threat to democracy in my view."

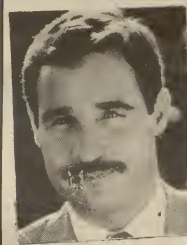
What especially troubles her is the pressure from federal agencies. "You would think under this administration it wouldn't be a priority. But the task force set up as a result of the Meese Commission under Reagan is still very active. I think they're actually more active than in the past," she said.

Whitman said he is incensed over what happened.

"They're doing it with some wonderful person like Bradley Braverman. He's a wonderful communicator. He's had something important to say on all these topics, and now he's not only being taken away from us, he's being hounded by the police," Whitman stated.

The irony of the case, he added, is that those most likely to have their "base interests" raised by *pissed* don't seem to like it. "The movie was so non-erotic that a water sports club here in L.A. would not show it," he reported.

"This is a very dangerous trend because Brad's material clearly has artistic merit," Clarence commented. "It's terrifying for those of us in the gay and lesbian community to have someone from outside our community deeming work obscene, when they don't have the same cultural context we have. It's really the worst example of government intrusion into our lives."▼



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Lavender Predictions for '96

by Bob Roeher

Last year's predictions of "benign neglect" of gay issues by the new Republican Congress held true: gay bashing was about the same as it was the previous few years under Democratic control. Ryan White was reauthorized with some fine tuning, and AIDS funding inched upwards.

I goofed on saying Melinda Paras would not survive the year at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. And was half right on Roberta Achtenberg leaving the Clinton administration; she, of course, left to run for mayor of San Francisco.

So with a glass of eggnog and some trepidation I took a squeegee to the old lavender crystal ball and peered into 1996.

Elections

It's a long time out to predict, but Bill Clinton looks to be the odds-on favorite to win reelection. It proves the adage, you can't beat someone with no one. Look for him to get about the same number of votes as last time. Two wild cards are the economy, will it start to slide downhill, and body bags from Bosnia and Haiti? Either could sink him.

Steve Michael's quixotic challenge to Clinton on AIDS in the Democratic primaries could cause a lot more worries than White House politics imagine. The press isn't going to have much to write about this primary season and Michael's principled stand could give him ink and protest voters a place to make a statement.

Bob Dole leads the Republican pack and it is his to lose. There will be surprises in New Hampshire and elsewhere, probably a kinder, gentler Steve Forbes replacing the vitriolic Pat Buchanan as the protest vote of choice for Republicans. But it seems the only thing that will deny Dole the nomination is his own health. His choice of a running mate could be the difference between winning and losing in November. If he chooses someone who can generate their own excitement — chiefly Colin Powell — then he might be able to upset Clinton.

Ironically enough, a Dole presidency would likely include the first openly gay cabinet Secretary — retiring Rep. Steve Gunderson, at Agriculture or possibly Education.

Republicans will retain control of the Senate, picking up a few

seats but not the 60 necessary to close off filibusters. In North Carolina Jesse Helms will again face a tight race, and if the Democrats again nominate Harvey Gantt, Helms will eke out a tight win.

One of the most interesting races will be in Massachusetts, where very pro-gay Democratic incumbent John Kerry is being challenged by Republican William Weld, called by many the most pro-gay governor in the nation. Too bad one of them can't be elected from another state — say, North Carolina.

Newt Gingrich will remain as Speaker of the House, as Republicans pad their margin of control by a handful of seats.

That is due chiefly to the number of Democrats retiring, especially in the South, and the likely pickup Republicans will make in those open seats. Barney Frank will be the only openly gay Member elected to the 105th Congress.

AIDS

The big AIDS news of 1995 was moving promising lab research through trials and regulatory approval. This year will see the usual number of research "breakthrough" announcements, some of which will pan out in the long run and others that won't. Most of the news from the labs will take several more years to move from discovery to clinical use.

The average PWA comes front and center this year with widespread availability of newly approved drugs such as 3TC and protease inhibitors, which now become part of the mix of front line treatment for AIDS.

Money will become the key issue. These expensive new medications will push many PWAs with private health insurance up to their drug and/or policy caps. AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAP) for people without resources could easily face demands totaling over \$1 billion for the year. And if research shows (as seems likely) that these medications are beneficial for people infected with HIV long before they suffer an AIDS-defining infection, then the demand for ADAP money could increase several fold. The funding just isn't there.

The Senate will take up modest reform of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) early in the year. Their draft legislation has

the support of most AIDS activists. The House seems more intent upon pushing for radical reform which would rely less upon government regulation and more upon market forces. Look for the Senate to win most of their points.

Reauthorization of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) may prove to be a more contentious matter, with AIDS, genetic re-

solidate those programs under a separate, newly created Institute of AIDS.

The Clinton White House will continue to be virtually a non-player in these debates.

The Courts

The U.S. Supreme Court will return a verdict favorable to lesbians and gays on the Colorado Amendment 2 case. But the opinions are likely to be divided and leave muddy the issue of initiative challenges to rights of gay and lesbian Americans. The

earlier the decision comes down, the more positive it is likely to be for the community, and the more it is likely to impact on other cases working their way through the system.

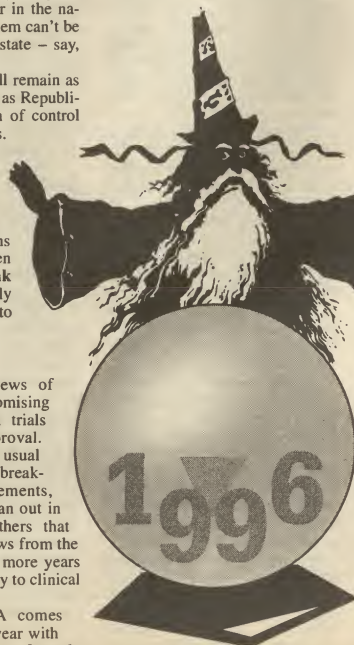
The military policy of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" is on appeal in two different federal circuit courts. The decision on *Thomason v Perry* is likely to come out of the Fourth Circuit in Richmond in late winter. There is a reasonable chance it will be favorable.

The second case, *Able v Perry*, being decided in New York, was favorable to gays in the first round. That is likely to be sustained by the three-member panel of the Second Circuit which heard the case in December. The full Circuit is not likely to accept an appeal.

That sets up the likelihood of a spring appeal to the Supreme Court. If both circuits rule in favor of allowing gays to serve openly, the court may surprise people by declining to hear the appeals. It would be forced to take the appeals if they differ.

Oral arguments would likely be scheduled for the fall. That would put the issue in the public spotlight just before election day. It is not what the Clinton administration wants, as his flip-flops on the issue have dismayed both conservative opponents and gay supporters.

Incremental gains will continue to be made in state courts in terms of dismantling sodomy statutes, and securing parental and partnership rights for lesbians and gays. Progress will be made on the Hawaii gay marriage case, though final resolution at the state level will not come until 1997. Activists will use the time to educate the public and build alliance for the inevitable



search, and a replay of battles over fetal tissue research at its center. The Office of AIDS Research (OAR) was created as an "institute without walls" to coordinate AIDS research within the separate entities of the NIH. It has had mixed success, in large part because of the autonomy of institute directors.

The Levine Group is making the first evaluation of all NIH-sponsored AIDS research. Its report is due out in late January. It is likely to show deficiencies in many areas, parallel to those reported in 1995 at the National Cancer Institute, which has the largest single AIDS research budget at NIH. That could stimulate public debate on whether to retain the current "institute without walls" character of OAR, or con-

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RETROVIR (zidovudine) Capsules and Syrup

Pediatric Use: See INDICATIONS, ADVERSE REACTIONS, and DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION sections.
ADVERSE REACTIONS:
Monotherapy - Adults: The frequency and severity of adverse events associated with the use of RETROVIR in adults are greater in patients with more advanced infection at the time of initiation of therapy. The following table summarizes the relative incidence of hematologic adverse events observed in clinical studies by severity of HIV disease present at the start of treatment.

Stage of Disease	RETROVIR Daily Dose* (mg)	Granulocytopenia (<750 cells/mm ³)	Anemia (Hgb <8.0 g/dL)
Asymptomatic ACTG 019	500	18%	11%
Early HIV Disease (CO4 >200 cells/mm ³) ACTG 016	1200	4%	4%
Advanced HIV Disease (CO4 >200 cells/mm ³) ACTG 022 BW 02	1500	10% [†]	3% [†]
(CO4 <200 cells/mm ³) ACTG 022 [‡] BW 02	600	37%	29%
	1500	47%	29%

* The currently recommended dose is 500 to 600 mg daily.
[†] Not statistically significant compared to placebo.
[‡] Anemia = Hgb <7.5 g/dL.

The anemia reported in patients with advanced HIV disease receiving RETROVIR appeared to be the result of impaired erythropoietic maturation as evidenced by macrocytosis while on drug. Although mean platelet counts in patients receiving RETROVIR were significantly increased compared to mean baseline values, thrombocytopenia did occur in some of these patients with advanced disease. Twelve percent of patients receiving RETROVIR compared to 5% of patients receiving placebo had >50% decreases from baseline platelet count. Mild drug-associated elevations in total bilirubin levels have been reported as an uncommon occurrence in patients treated for asymptomatic HIV infection.

The HIV-infected adults participating in these clinical trials often had baseline symptoms and signs of HIV disease and/or experienced adverse events at some time during study. It was often difficult to distinguish adverse events possibly associated with administration of RETROVIR from underlying signs of HIV disease or intercurrent illnesses. The following table summarizes clinical adverse events or symptoms which occurred in at least 5% of all patients with advanced HIV disease treated with 1500 mg/day of RETROVIR in the original placebo-controlled study. Of the items listed in the table, only severe headache, nausea, insomnia, and myalgia were reported at a significantly greater rate in patients receiving RETROVIR.

Percentage (%) of Patients with Clinical Events in Advanced HIV Disease (BW 02)	RETROVIR 1500 mg/day* (n=144) %	Placebo (n=137) %
BODY AS A WHOLE		
Asthenia	19	16
Dysphoresis	5	4
Fever	16	12
Headache	42	37
Malaise	8	7
GASTROINTESTINAL		
Anorexia	11	8
Diarrhea	12	16
Osypesia	5	4
St. Pain	20	19
Nausea	46	16
Vomiting	6	3
MUSCULOSKELETAL		
Myalgia	8	2
NERVOUS		
Insomnia	6	4
Parosmia	5	1
Somnolence	6	9
RESPIRATORY		
Dyspnea	5	3
SKIN		
Rash	17	15
SPECIAL SENSES		
Taste Perseverance	5	8

* The currently recommended dose is 500 to 600 mg daily.

All events of a severe or life-threatening nature were monitored for adults in the placebo-controlled studies in early HIV disease and asymptomatic HIV infection. Data concerning the occurrence of additional signs or symptoms were also collected. No distinction was made in reporting events between those possibly associated with the administration of the study medication and those due to the underlying disease. The following tables summarize all those events reported at a statistically significant greater incidence for patients receiving RETROVIR in these studies.

Percentage (%) of Patients with Adverse Events in Early HIV Disease (ACTG 016)	RETROVIR 1200 mg/day* (n=361) %	Placebo (n=352) %
BODY AS A WHOLE		
Asthenia	69	62
GASTROINTESTINAL		
Dyspepsia	6	1
Nausea	61	41
Vomiting	25	13

* The currently recommended dose is 500 to 600 mg daily.

RETROVIR (zidovudine) Capsules and Syrup

Percentage (%) of Patients with Adverse Events* in Asymptomatic HIV Infection (ACTG 019)	RETROVIR 500 mg/day* (n=453) %	Placebo (n=428) %
BODY AS A WHOLE		
Asthenia	86	58
Headache	62	52
Malaise	53	44
GASTROINTESTINAL		
Anorexia	20	10
Constipation	6	3
Nausea	54	29
Vomiting	17	9
NERVOUS		
Dizziness	17	15

* Reported in >5% of study population.

[†] Not statistically significant versus placebo.

Several serious adverse events have been reported with the use of RETROVIR in clinical practice. Myopathy and myositis with pathological changes, similar to that produced by HIV disease, have been associated with prolonged use of RETROVIR. Reports of hepatomegaly with steatosis, hepatitis, pancreatitis, lactic acidosis, sensitization reactions (including anaphylaxis in one patient), hyperbilirubinemia, vasculitis, and seizures have been rare. These adverse events, except for sensitization, have also been associated with HIV disease. A single case of macular edema has been reported with the use of RETROVIR.

Additional adverse events reported in clinical trials at a rate not significantly different from placebo are listed below. Selected events from post-marketing clinical experience with RETROVIR are also included. Many of these events may also occur as part of HIV disease. The clinical significance of the association between treatment with RETROVIR and these events is unknown.

Body as a Whole: abdominal pain, back pain, body odor, chest pain, chills, edema of the lip,

fever, flu-like syndrome, hyperalgesia,

cardiovascular: syncope, vasodilation,

Gastrointestinal: bleeding gums, constipation, diarrhea, dysphagia, edema of the tongue, enstasis,

fatigue, mouth ulcer, rectal hemorrhage,

Hemic and Lymphatic: lymphadenopathy,

Musculoskeletal: arthralgia, muscle spasm, tremor, twitch,

Nervous: anxiety, confusion, depression, dizziness, emotional lability, loss of mental acuity,

neuroticism, paresthesia, somnolence, vertigo,

Respiratory: cough, dyspnea, epistaxis, hoarseness, pharyngitis, rhinitis, sinusitis,

Skin: acne, changes in skin and nail pigmentation, pruritus, rash, sweat, urticaria,

Special senses: amblyopia, hearing loss, photophobia, taste perversion,

Urogenital: dysuria, polyuria, urinary frequency, urinary hesitancy.

Pediatrics: Anemia and granulocytopenia among children with advanced HIV disease receiving RETROVIR occurred with similar incidence to that reported for adults with AIDS or advanced ARC (see above). Management of neutropenia and anemia included, in some cases, dose modification and/or blood product transfusions. In the open-label studies, 15% had their dose modified (temporarily discontinued or dose reduction by 30%) due to anemia and 25% had their dose modified (temporarily discontinued or dose reduction by 30%) for neutropenia. Four children had RETROVIR permanently discontinued for neutropenia. The following table summarizes the occurrence of anemia (Hgb <7.5 g/dL) and granulocytopenia (<750 cells/mm³) among 124 children receiving RETROVIR for a mean of 287 days (range 3 to 855 days).

	Granulocytopenia (<750 cells/mm ³)	Anemia (Hgb <7.5 g/dL)		
	n	%	n	%
Advanced Pediatric HIV Disease (n=124)	48	39	28*	23

* Twenty-two children received one or more transfusions due to a decline in hemoglobin to <7.5 g/dL. In addition, 15 children were transfused for hemoglobin levels >7.5 g/dL. Fifty-nine percent of the patients transfused had a one-study history of anemia or transfusion requirement.

* Twenty-two children received one or more transfusions due to a decline in hemoglobin to <7.5 g/dL.

[†] An additional 15 children were transfused for hemoglobin levels >7.5 g/dL. Fifty-nine percent of the patients transfused had a pre-study history of anemia or transfusion requirement.

Macrocytosis was observed among the majority of children enrolled in the studies.

In the open-label studies involving 124 children, 16 clinical adverse events were reported by 24 children. No event was reported by more than 5.6% of the study populations. Due to the open-label design of the studies, it was difficult to determine possible events related to the use of RETROVIR versus disease-related events. Therefore, all clinical events reported as associated with therapy with RETROVIR or of unknown relationship to therapy with RETROVIR are presented in the following table.

Percentage (%) of Pediatric Patients with Clinical Events in Open-Label Studies	n	%
Adverse Event		
BODY AS A WHOLE		
Fever	4	3.2
Phlebotomy/Bacteremia	2	1.6
Headache	2	1.6
GASTROINTESTINAL		
Nausea	1	0.8
Vomiting	6	4.8
Abdominal Pain	4	3.2
Diarrhea	1	0.8
Weight Loss	1	0.8
NERVOUS		
Insomnia	3	2.4
Nervousness/Irritability	2	1.6
Decreased Reflexes	7	5.6
Seizures	1	0.8
CARDIOVASCULAR		
Left Ventricular Outflow	1	0.8
Cardiomyopathy	1	0.8
S3 Gallop	1	0.8
Congestive Heart Failure	1	0.8
Generalized Edema	1	0.8
ECG Abnormality	3	2.4
UROGENITAL		
Hematuria/Viral Cystitis	1	0.8

* Peripheral vein I.V. catheter site.

RETROVIR (zidovudine) Capsules and Syrup

The clinical adverse events reported among adult recipients of RETROVIR may also occur in children.
Use for the Prevention of Maternal-Fetal Transmission of HIV: In a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial in HIV-infected women and their infants conducted to determine the utility of RETROVIR for the prevention of maternal-fetal HIV transmission, RETROVIR Syrup at 2 mg/kg was administered every 6 hours for 6 weeks to infants beginning within 12 hours after birth. The most commonly reported adverse experiences were anemia (hemoglobin <5.0 g/dL) and neutropenia (<1000 cells/mm³). Anemia occurred in 22% of the infants who received RETROVIR and in 12% of the infants who received placebo. The mean difference in hemoglobin values was less than 10 g/dL for infants receiving RETROVIR compared to infants receiving placebo. No infants with anemia required transfusion and all hemoglobin values spontaneously returned to normal within 6 weeks after completion of therapy with RETROVIR. Neutropenia was reported with similar frequency in the group that received RETROVIR (21%) and in the group that received placebo (27%). The long-term consequences of in utero and infant exposure to RETROVIR are unknown.

Combination Therapy with RETROVIR and Zalcitabine: The safety profile of combination therapy with RETROVIR and zalcitabine reflects the individual safety profile of each component. The complete prescribing information for zalcitabine should be consulted before combination therapy with RETROVIR and zalcitabine is initiated.

OVERDOSSAGE: Cases of acute overdoses in both children and adults have been reported with doses up to 50 mg. None were fatal. The only consistent finding in these cases of overdose was spontaneous or induced nausea and vomiting. Hematologic changes were transient and not severe. Some patients experienced nonspecific CNS symptoms such as headache, dizziness, drowsiness, lethargy, and confusion. One report of a grand mal seizure possibly attributable to RETROVIR occurred in a 35-year-old male 3 hours after ingesting 36 mg of RETROVIR. No other cause could be identified. All patients recovered without permanent sequelae. Hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis appear to have a negligible effect on the removal of zidovudine while elimination of its primary metabolite, GZDV, is enhanced.

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Monotherapy - Adults: For adults with symptomatic HIV infection, including AIDS, the recommended oral dose is 100 mg (one 100 mg capsule or 2 teaspoonsful [10 mL] Syrup) every 4 hours (500 mg total daily dose). The effectiveness of this dose compared to higher dosing regimens in improving the neurologic dysfunction associated with HIV disease is unknown. A small randomized study found a greater effect of higher doses of RETROVIR on improvement of neurological symptoms in patients with pre-existing neurological disease.

For asymptomatic HIV infection, the recommended dose for adults is 100 mg administered orally every 4 hours while awake (500 mg/day).

Pediatrics: The recommended dose in children 3 months to 12 years of age is 100 mg/m² every 6 hours (720 mg/m² per day), not to exceed 200 mg every 6 hours.

Maternal-Fetal HIV Transmission: The recommended dosing regimen for administration to pregnant women (>14 weeks of pregnancy) and their newborn infants is:

Maternal Dosing: 100 mg orally five times per day until the start of labor. During labor and delivery intravenous RETROVIR should be administered at 2 mg/kg (total body weight) over 1 hour followed by a continuous intravenous infusion of 1 mg/kg/h (total body weight) until clamping of the umbilical cord.

Infant Dosing: 2 mg/kg orally every 6 hours starting within 12 hours after birth and continuing through 6 weeks of age. Infants unable to receive oral dosing may be administered RETROVIR intravenously at 15 mg/kg, infused over 30 minutes, every 6 hours. (See PRECAUTIONS if hepatic disease or renal insufficiency is present.)

Combination Therapy with RETROVIR and Zalcitabine: The recommended dosage regimen consists of RETROVIR 200 mg taken orally with zalcitabine 0.75 mg every 8 hours.

Monitoring of Patients: Hematologic toxicities appear to be related to pretreatment bone marrow reserve and to dose and duration of therapy. In patients with poor bone marrow reserve, particularly in patients with advanced symptomatic HIV disease, frequent monitoring of hematologic indices is recommended to detect serious anemia or granulocytopenia (see WARNINGS). In patients who experience hematologic toxicity, reduction in anemia may occur as early as 2 to 4 weeks, and granulocytopenia usually occurs after 6 to 8 weeks.

Dose Adjustment: Significant anemia (hemoglobin <7.5 g/dL or reduction of >25% of baseline) and/or significant granulocytopenia (granulocyte count <750 cells/mm³ or reduction of >50% from baseline) may require a dose interruption until evidence of marrow recovery is observed (see WARNINGS). For less severe anemia or granulocytopenia, a reduction in daily dose may be adequate. In patients who develop significant anemia, dose modification does not necessarily eliminate the need for transfusion. If marrow recovery occurs following dose modification, gradual increases in dose may be appropriate depending on hematologic indices and patient tolerance.

In end-stage renal disease patients maintained on hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis, recommended dosing is 100 mg every 6 to 8 hours (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY/Pharmacokinetics section of full prescribing information).

There are insufficient data to recommend dose adjustment of RETROVIR in patients with impaired hepatic function.

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U.S. Patent Nos. 4818538 and 4828838 (Product Patents); 4742322, 4833330, and 4837208 (Use Patents)

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NATIONAL NEWS

'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' Hits The Road

by Bob Roehr

All thirteen judges of the U.S. Fourth Circuit Court in Richmond, Virginia sat en banc December 5 to hear the appeal of *Thomasson v. Perry*, the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" case likely bound for the Supreme Court in 1996.

Lieutenant Paul G. Thomasson began his challenge to the "Don't Ask" policy March 2, 1994 by delivering a letter stating "I am gay" to four rear admirals for whom he had directly served. Although he had received exemplary performance reviews from them, the Navy initiated discharge proceedings against the ten-year veteran aviator seven days after the letter's delivery.

The Navy separated Thomasson from the service on June 15, 1995. Thomasson lost the initial round in court, and a three-member appeals panel heard oral arguments on an expedited basis on September 12. They surprised observers a week later by announcing that no opinion would be issued; instead, oral arguments would be presented anew before the entire circuit.

"This case is not about the ability of gay men and women to serve in the military," said Thomasson's attorney Allan B. Moore in his opening statement. "All parties agree that this policy allows that. And that gays can and do serve with distinction. The policy allows undeclared homosexuals to serve."

For Moore, "the only distinction" is that Thomasson was kicked out for his speech, not for being gay, but for saying those three words. And that is unconstitutional.

"Doesn't speech open the door to conduct?" asked Judge Paul B. Niemeyer (54 years old, appointed by President Bush in 1990).

"The act itself distinguishes between status and conduct," responded Moore. So the statement "I am gay" has no "evidentiary value" because it refers only to orientation and not conduct.

Judge Francis D. Murnaghan, Jr. (75, Carter 1979) was concerned that Thomasson didn't offer evidence to rebut the presumption that he engaged in homosexual acts.

Moore called the "rebuttable presumption" clause "irrational and unconstitutional." He offered the complete lack of any conduct charges against the Lieutenant as well as the testimony of 21 officers and enlisted men at the Naval Board of Inquiry who spoke to Thomasson's exemplary professional behavior.

Interjurist irritation

Murnaghan was not mollified and returned again and again to the question. The judge had needed assistance sitting down and his speech sounded slurred, perhaps the lingering effects of a stroke. His behavior seemed to irritate at least one of his colleagues, Judge Hiram Emory Widener, Jr. (72, Nixon 1972).

"Was there evidence that he did not engage in conduct?" asked Niemeyer.

Moore maintained "the record is uncontested, research shows that a large percentage of heterosexuals engage in sex acts which are in violation of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, but there is no presumption that they do so." He called this double standard "the insidious part of the policy" that "really shows that it is discrimination."

Judge J. Michael Luttig (41,



Photo: Bob Roehr

Navy veteran Lieutenant Paul G. Thomasson has been fighting Clinton's policy on gays in the military for almost two years.

Bush 1991) suggested that in *Bowers v. Hardwick*, the infamous sodomy case out of Georgia, the Supreme Court allowed homosexuals and heterosexuals to be treated differently.

"No," replied Moore. He turned to the often-cited *Goldman* case, where the Court allowed the Air Force to prohibit the wearing of a yarmulke by an Orthodox Jew. "It was a rule of uniform application to everybody in the military. And it had to do with conduct, the wearing of the yarmulke."

"But in order to make that case like this case," he pointed out, "the rule would have had to have said, we will forbid you, Captain Goldman, from saying 'I am an Orthodox Jew,' because that will indicate that you have this propensity to wear a yarmulke, which violates the military dress code."

"If you understand that analogy, you understand why this policy is so over-broad and why it does really prohibit speech on a fundamental aspect of who somebody is."

Not rationally based

Moore cited the regulations drawn up to "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." An action such as going to a gay bar or marching in a gay pride parade "does not suggest conduct. But saying 'I am gay' does. That is not a rationally based policy."

Edwin S. Kneedler, arguing for the government, maintained that "what is at issue is not individual qualifications but overall combat efficiency."

Chief Judge Sam J. Ervin (69, Carter 1980) quietly asked, "How do you rebut the presumption?"

Kneedler tried to slide around it. "Thomasson offered no evidence." The Lieutenant didn't take the opportunity to say "he was prepared to refrain from acts."

Ervin continued, "Is it enough to simply say you have never engaged in homosexual acts, and will not?"

"One cannot give a categorical answer," Kneedler said, "but I would think not because of propensity."

Judge Diana Gribbon Motz (Clinton 1994) asked for "other examples where a statement, such as 'I drink alcohol,' will get you thrown out."

Kneedler said he could offer none.

Well, what about the statement, "I am a very religious old-fash-

ioned Mormon?" she continued. "Would that indicate a propensity to engage in polygamy?"

The "religious aspect" clouded the question in Kneedler's mind.

Judge J. Harvie Wilkinson III (51, Reagan 1984) asked if there were "any other federal statute that takes a pure statement and attaches the same employment consequences? Is it unique?"

And again Kneedler responded that he was "not aware of any."

Judge Kenneth K. Hall (77, Ford 1976) wondered, "What harm has Thomasson done to the military? Why is he being kicked out?"

"It is contrary to good order and unit cohesion" which Congress determined, responded Kneedler. He also cited the privacy of others in the military.

After pressing the question three times and getting similar answers Hall concluded, "He hasn't harmed the service at all, has he?"

In an unusual move the court then allowed Professor William Woodruff ten minutes to present arguments on behalf of the Family Research Council, an arch-conservative group that had filed an amicus brief in the case. Their principal thesis was expressed in a news release quoting Robert Maginnis. "The Justice Department's primary motive is to uphold Clinton's promise to the homosexual community rather than defend a law in the military's best interests."

Woodruff maintained that "prior policy arrived at removing the conduct [of homosexuality] by removing the class" of people who practice it. He saw Congress simply codifying the old policy, including the old assumptions.

Judge Motz pressed him to show where it "explicitly says this." And Woodruff said that adopting the old language also implied the old interpretations.

"Why didn't Congress just say, 'Homosexuals can't serve'?" asked Judge M. Blane Michael (52, Clinton 1993).

"They didn't need to," was the response.

The spirited questioning offered few clues to the ultimate decision. But perhaps one clue was revealed the previous week in an order by the Fourth Circuit upholding a stay and allowing Lieutenant "Dirk" Sellin to stay in the Navy while his challenge to the

Continued on next page

Not 'Able' To Argue Military Policy As Planned

by Bob Roehr

Nobody asked and nobody told at the scheduled appeals hearing of *Able v. Perry* Tuesday, December 19 in Manhattan: Judge Guido Calabresi announced before arguments began he was withdrawing from the three-member panel hearing the case.

Able had been put together by gay rights litigators as the lead challenge to the "new" ban on gays in the military. The District Court had ruled favorably in March, striking down the ban as unconstitutional. The Clinton administration appealed that decision.

Only hours before arguments were scheduled to begin, the government filed a letter with the court that pointed out Calabresi had a possible conflict — or the

possible appearance of conflict — of interest. In March 1993 during Congressional debate on gays in the military, when Calabresi was dean of the Yale University Law School, he was one of about 100 law professors who signed a letter to the Senate Armed Services Committee that argued the "old" policy banning gays in the military was unconstitutional.

The government has employed several procedures along the route which have had the effect of delaying progress of this case through the courts. In contrast, a later challenge, *Thomasson v. Perry* in the Fourth Circuit in Richmond, Virginia, has zipped along with nary a delay. [See story, facing page.]

Some have speculated that the government would rather see the

facts, arguments, and opinions of *Thomasson* before the Supreme Court. The decision on the *Thomasson* appeal now may be handed down prior to and thus may have an impact on oral arguments in the *Able* appeal.

While there are differences between the "old" and the "new" ban, there are also many similarities. Matt Coles, the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) attorney set to argue for *Able*, said Calabresi was "doing the extremely prudent thing" in withdrawing from the case.

Now another judge from the Second Circuit will be selected, and arguments will be rescheduled when the replacement has had time to read the extensive case documents. That could take weeks, or even months. ▼

Lutheran

Continued from page 1

Zillhart and Frost are assistant pastors at St. Francis Lutheran Church. Johnson, the first openly gay person to be the sole pastor of a Lutheran congregation, serves at First United Lutheran Church, a predominantly heterosexual congregation.

The trio are all active in Lutheran Lesbian and Gay Ministry, which provides a wide range of services, including pastoral counseling, spiritual formation and direction, and social activities to lesbian and gay singles, youth, couples, and people with AIDS throughout the Bay Area.

In addition, Zillhart and Frost are the parents of a two-year-old baby daughter, Noel Hart, born during their tenure at St. Francis.

'We will find a better path'

The expulsion will have little practical effect on either congregation, the Reverend James DeLange, senior pastor of St. Francis, told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

The congregations own their own property and give — rather than receive — financial assistance to the parent body.

"While the personal cost to us as pastors will be minimal, we feel sad about this. It is sad that a church body as gospel-oriented and as large as the ELCA cannot tolerate the presence of openly gay and lesbian clergy and their life partners," DeLange said.

He said that he had hoped the church would be able to allow some flexibility on the issue — if for no other reason than to send a message of support to its tens of

thousands of lesbian and gay and bisexual members.

"Instead, the church is once again sending a message of shame and rejection," DeLange said.

Zillhart told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the expulsion was bittersweet for the congregation of St. Francis.

"We still have hope for the wider church, but we do not put our trust in their fickle faith. When justice leads the way, we will walk together. When fear and prejudice lead, we will find a better path," she said.

The local Sierra Pacific Synod of the denomination, which represents 220 congregations, will maintain a strong bond with the two local churches after the expulsion, according to DeLange.

Members and clergy of the two congregations who wish to keep their affiliations with the ELCA have been invited by five local Lutheran congregations to officially become members of their congregations while they continue to minister and worship at St. Francis.

Final ceremony

Bishop Robert Mattheis, who heads the Sierra Pacific, will preside at the Sunday, December 31 11 a.m. celebration of the Eucharist at St. Francis, and will speak at the worship service.

Although Mattheis is known to oppose the denominational ban on lesbian and gay clergy, he is bound by church policy.

Also in attendance at the celebration of the Eucharist will be Bishop Paul Egerston of the Southern California West synod.

The disciplinary action against the two churches was initiated in 1990 by anti-gay former Sierra

means to be a gay person. And they are overlooking the point that the regulation is wrong because it doesn't treat people the same."

The plaintiff, Paul Thomasson, had but a few brief words. "This policy that tells gay and lesbian servicemembers that they can go in harm's way for their country, but they can't come out and try to dispel the stereotypes or overcome the prejudices from which they suffer, is absolutely inimical to the very Constitution that they have all sworn to defend." He hoped the court found it such.

A decision is not expected for several months. ▼

Don't Ask...

Continued from page 18

ban proceeds through the courts.

Outside on the courthouse steps Dixon Osburn, co-director of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN), offered this evaluation. "I think it breaks down to four opposed, four in our favor, and five, it's still anybody's guess."

His colleague Michelle Beckne believes, "The judges who were the toughest questioners are stuck on the first question, they really don't understand what it

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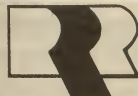
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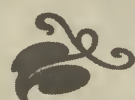
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OBITUARIES

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Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization - and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you enclose a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

Brad Battaglia December 15, 1995

Our friend Brad Battaglia passed away peacefully on December 15 after losing his battle with AIDS. We will all miss his quick humor and easy smile. The world is now a much poorer place without his incredible talent for music, poetry and his unique art work.

None of his many, many friends was ready to say goodbye. So I'm sure God will understand when we cry.

And I'm sure that each one of us has a special, favorite, funny, unique story about our friend Brad to pass on and to keep his memory alive in our hearts.

We will be lost for a while without you, but I'm sure when we are ready to join you, you will come back and lead the way. Until then, we love and miss you dearly. ▼

Alain Baptiste

Sept. 20, 1964 - Dec. 10, 1995

Friends and family will gather on January 13 to celebrate the life, love and spirit of Alain Steven Baptiste, 31, of Honolulu and San Francisco, who died Sunday, December 10, at a Chico hospital of AIDS-related pneumonia. To participate in this event, please call 415/621-8087.

Alain was born in Woodstock, New York, to Augustine and Bernice Baptiste. When he was one, his family moved to San Jose, Calif., where he lived until he graduated from high school. After attending the University of California, Berkeley, he traveled in Europe for several months before settling in San Francisco, where he attended San Francisco State University and worked at the Hard Rock Cafe. For the last six years, he worked at the Hard Rock in Honolulu. He enjoyed tennis, piano and travel.

Survivors include Alain's parents, Augustine and Bernice; a sister, Adrienne Veltman; two brothers, Antoine and Armand; and two nephews, Tyler and Jack Veltman, all of Chico. He was predeceased by an older brother, Augustine, also of Chico. He will be dearly missed by his family and the many friends who loved him.

Memorial contributions may be made to Home Health Care Plus, 1398 Ridgewood Dr., Chico, CA 95973. ▼

Yusef Rumie

1960 - 1995

Born in Chile of Middle Eastern ancestry, high school at McAteer in San Francisco, female impersonator at Finocchio's, claims clerk at CSE Insurance Co., tailor for a Taste of Leather, Medi-Cal clerk at Wall Medical Group, costume whipper-upper extraordinaire, Mack sex club owner, graphics designer, upholsterer, pot smoker - Yusef was all of these and more.

He was a good friend to those who really knew him. He was only tolerant of others.

Yusef was planning to finally go home to Chile to be with his mother and sisters when he unexpectedly fell ill. He passed two days before he was to leave, never fulfilling that final dream.

So long, our dear friend; we will miss you. ▼

Michael Edward Axelrad

Nov. 29, 1939 - Nov. 28, 1995

Michael was a native of San Francisco, the loving companion of David Wunz, the loving son of Jessica and Joseph, and the grandson of Myra and Harry. He graduated from Lowell High, and received a B.A. from Reed College, an M.A. from Columbia University and an M.B.A. from U.C. Berkeley.

Michael was a self-employed CPA for 18 years. He jostled successfully with the IRS but could not beat AIDS. A resident of Guerneville, he was given and gave lots of love, and is grateful for his friends. The rest do not count. He had great fun at times. Private services were held. ▼

Kevin Miner

April 18, 1957 - Nov. 13, 1995

Kevin died at Davies Medical Center in my arms. He and I had an inseparable bond for ten years. He was a real fighter up to the very end, but passed in a peaceful way.

Kevin was the most nurturing companion a guy could ever hope for and always put the needs of others before his own. He was a carpenter and loved to cook. His love and the strength he gave me have been a real solace since he died and will remain with me for the rest of my life. I truly thank you for that gift, Kevin. I hope we can be together again someday.

Kevin was surrounded by his family and all our friends up to the end. Originally from Des Plaines, Ill., he migrated briefly to San Diego then to the Bay Area, where he earned a degree in industrial design at San Jose State. He and I lived in San Francisco for the last five years. Prior to that, we lived together in Guam while I finished my commitment to the Navy.

Thank you and farewell, my little buddy. Until we meet again. You will always be in my heart. ▼

Martin (Marty) Allen Nellans

Aug. 29, 1963 - Dec. 12, 1995

In the early morning hours of Tuesday, December 12, Marty Nellans departed this world in his sleep for a better place. He had been battling HIV infection for 13 months. He had been recently attacked near his home on Geary Street and never seemed to recover.

Marty moved to San Francisco from Hollywood, Calif., in 1979, hailing originally from North Bend, Wash. He enjoyed a variety of career endeavors, but his favorite jobs involved those dealing with the public. He worked as a bartender at many of San Francisco's well-known venues: QT, Reflections, Giraffe, Gangway, White Horse in Berkeley and, most recently, Galleon.

Marty would always greet you with a smile, and was ready to offer a comforting remark or help if needed. His witty disposition and offhand remarks were his trademark.

Marty is survived by his mother, Lois Schultz; father, Jimmy Nellans; brother, Jimmy Dean Nellans; half-brother, Brian Copeland; and close friend, Ken Odum. Memorial services will be early January 1996. Benefit fundraisers will be held at the White Horse, and the Galleon will have a benefit dinner on January 4, 1996. Donations in Marty's name should be made to the Godfather Service Fund. ▼

Robert C. "Chris" Veysey

May 18, 1947 - Dec. 21, 1995

Robert Veysey, known as Chris and "Christie" to his family, died from AIDS on Thursday, December 21. Although born in Nashua, N.H., he grew up in Glens Falls, N.Y. Chris and his partner, Mike J. Mohn, celebrated their 13th anniversary this November.

Prior to his disability retirement, Chris was manager of the AIDS Emergency Fund (AEF) for two years and, after leaving on disability, continued for a period as a volunteer. Previously, he ran his own business, Great Things, which made "gummy wands" and various novelty and gift items.

Chris was a kind, loving and gentle man. His love for and gentle guidance of his "Sweetie" over the last 13 years cannot ever be replaced. In addition to his partner, survivors include his brother, Wesley Veysey; three nieces, Erica, Meredith and Emily; his sister, Carol Veysey Schaeffer; a niece, Tabatha; nephew, John (born this year on Chris' birthday); mother, Clara Griffiths Veysey; and father, Edwin Cliff Veysey, all of Glens Falls, N.Y.

An at-home remembrance and open house will be held on Sunday, January 7, 1996, from 2 p.m. on. A heartfelt thanks to Chris' Shanti volunteer, Frances Emily, and the wonderful care provided by Kaiser Hospice, especially by Tom Chalmers, Ruth Ann and William Ong. Chris also received special care from his friends Jimmy, Jeff, Bill, Annie, Pat, Tom and others. Donations may be directed to the AEF. ▼

Tuck Finn Dies at 50

by Kent Brandley

One of the founders of the Shades Project fundraising program to benefit the AIDS Emergency Fund, Tucker Finn, died November 28 from AIDS complications.

Born May 24, 1945 in Columbus, Ohio, Finn came to California in 1950. He was a Vietnam Veteran and talented designer, but many other aspects of his life remain an enigma today, even to his closest friends. Even his name was his own invention.

He lived out the last years of his life at Peter Claver House, a Catholic Charities residence for people with AIDS, and was instrumental in establishing and maintaining a unique rose garden there.

Lee Bossell, Finn's significant other for the last seven months, told the *B.A.R.* that Finn had promised him the roses at the garden would bloom for Christmas, and they did.

"Nature was his mainstay - his real love of life," Bossell said. "His real love was the rose garden."

Finn built the soil with mulch and chicken manure he carted to the facility on a regular and dedicated basis. He was also fond of birds and hung hummingbird feeders within the rose garden.

"He had a particular affection for hummingbirds," Bossell recalled.

Finn also had an affection for South of Market bars, and was a



Photo: Jane Philomen Calland

Shades Project co-founder Tucker Finn, seen here in his favorite outfit, raised thousands of dollars to fight AIDS.

well-known fixture in the area. He was usually seen in the last years of his life wearing his favorite gardening overalls.

Finn was a driving force in the Shades Project, a long-running fundraising campaign in which volunteers produced works of art on window shades for charity auc-

tions. The designs and media created ranged from simple pen-and-ink drawings to elaborate collages of matchbook covers, feathers, and sequins. He received a special commendation for his work on the project, in recognition of the many thousands of dollars he helped raise, at the AIDS Emergency Fund's annual dinner in 1991.

A memorial will be announced at a later date. ▼

AIDS Legal Referral Panel Seeks Director

by Dennis Conkin

Longtime AIDS Legal Referral Panel director Kristin Chambers will leave the agency at the end of December.

Chambers joined the staff in 1990, after serving as a volunteer attorney assisting clients with AIDS.

Chambers replaced the late Clint Hockenberry as ALRP director after his death from AIDS in 1992.

"For two years I counseled and referred clients. Never in my life have I done more rewarding work," she said at a November ALRP reception. "There were magical moments when I saw that the clients were filled with wisdom and grace, and I learned much from them."

Chambers said she didn't want

anyone looking back at what she and others have accomplished so far, but urged her colleagues to look to the future and the challenges facing ALRP and other AIDS and social service providers in an era of political conservatism and declining public funding.

A search for Chambers's replacement is underway, according to ALRP spokesperson Irwin Keller.

Experience in the provision of legal services for the indigent is recommended for the position, and applicants must have substantial administrative and supervisory experience. A JD or equivalent is also required.

Women, people of color, and people living with HIV disease or other disabilities are encouraged to apply. ▼

OBITUARIES

Kevin Francis Gage

July 22, 1954 - Dec. 12, 1995

Kevin ended his 11-year battle with AIDS in the company of family and friends. He died as he lived, peacefully.

A native San Franciscan, Kevin touched many lives with his laughter. No matter how bad things looked, Kevin could al-

ways find something to laugh about. While healthy, Kevin volunteered with the San Francisco AIDS Foundation Hotline and delivered meals for Project Open Hand. His generosity always exceeded his means.

Kevin spent the last few years of his life fighting the religious right, never accepting or understanding the hatred, ignorance and prejudice that spewed from the mouths of so-called "Christians." No one better exemplified the philosophy of love, understanding and forgiveness than Kevin.

A true 49er fan, Kevin was buried in the 49er jacket given to him by his love, Carlos Hernandez. In the breast pocket was a picture of Allie, the golden-haired basenji who accompanied him everywhere. He is survived by his partner, Carlos Hernandez; a loving mother and father, Frances and Curtis; grandmother, Dorel; and his four brothers and sisters. Kevin lives still and forever in the hearts and minds of those who loved him. ▼

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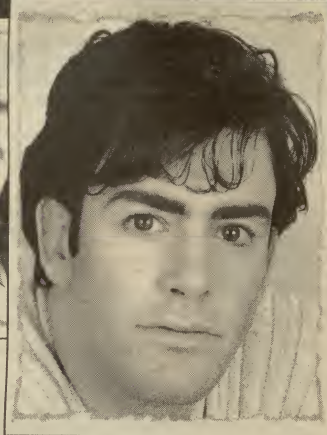
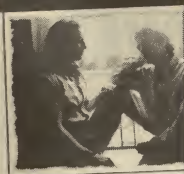
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Former Surgeon General, C. Everett Koop has urged gay men to be vaccinated against Hepatitis A. Travelers to Mexico, the Caribbean, South and Central America, Africa, Asia, the Mediterranean basin, Eastern Europe and the Middle East are also at risk.

Hepatitis A is a viral infection of the liver which is transmitted through contaminated water and food, and by contact with other people infected with the virus. It is very common in developing countries, but occasional cases and small outbreaks occur throughout the United States. A new vaccine has been developed which is designed to prevent people from getting Hepatitis A.

If you are interested in receiving Hepatitis A vaccine, call Melanie or Susan now for an appointment or more information. One blood test can determine if you have ever been infected with the Hepatitis A virus and need vaccine.

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HEALTH PERSPECTIVE

Vaccines 102

Or, Ready for your Flu Shot, Dr. DeMille?

by William Snow,
ACT UP/Golden Gate
Writers Pool

This is the second in a series of periodic articles about the importance and challenges of developing an AIDS vaccine.

Public and community support for developing an AIDS vaccine has been limited by lack of understanding of what vaccines are, how they work, and the unique issues of developing a vaccine against HIV. So here are some vaccine basics, along with current opinions about HIV vaccines.

The immune system is our defense system for recognizing and eliminating a variety of foreign invaders. When functioning properly, your immune system can tell the difference between foreign molecules and the body's own cells and proteins. In many cases it can marshal an immune response to eliminate or neutralize the invader. When you get sick, some of your symptoms, such as fevers, rashes, etc., are actually your immune system's attack on the invader. Frequently, when it is over, you are then protected against that invader.

In fact, the discipline of immunology grew out of this observation that individuals who had recovered from certain infectious diseases were protected from ever getting the disease again. In ancient Greece, it was known that only those who had recovered from the plague could nurse the sick because they would not con-

tract the disease a second time.

With AIDS there is no proven instance of the immune system protecting an individual from infection or disease. But there are intriguing examples — multiply-exposed individuals who remain negative and long-term non-progressors — that suggest at least partial natural protection may rarely occur. Many basic scientists are trying to identify what the reasons or "correlates" for protection could be.

It took almost 2000 years for the concept of immunity to be used for a medically effective vaccination. At the beginning of the 19th century Edward Jenner was intrigued that milkmaids who contracted a mild disease called cowpox were afterwards immune to smallpox, a disfiguring and often fatal disease. He reasoned it might be possible to protect people from smallpox by inoculating them with fluid from a cowpox sore. He tested his idea by inoculating an eight-year-old boy with fluid from a cowpox pustule; later he intentionally infected the child with smallpox. The child was protected, though the experiment was certainly not safe or ethical.

(A similar circumstance exists in parts Africa, where HIV-1 and HIV-2 are both circulating. Recent research indicates that infection with HIV-2, a much less pathogenic virus than HIV-1, may protect some individuals from HIV-1 infection later.)

Jenner's technique spread quickly through Europe, but it was almost a hundred years later before it was applied to other diseases, by Louis Pasteur — by accident. Pasteur returned from vacation and injected some chickens with cholera that had been fatal before his vacation; to his surprise, the chickens recovered. Aging had weakened the cholera bacteria, which could then be used to protect against disease; this is called an "attenuated" strain. Pasteur extended his findings to other diseases. Although Pasteur proved that vaccination worked, he didn't understand the mechanisms involved. He developed his vaccines empirically, that is, by trial and error. Even today, some scientists believe that the best way to develop an AIDS vaccine is to put resources into working out the mechanisms of protection, while others believe in the empirical approach.

Long-term consequences

Vaccines in use today follow only a few basic designs. Most common are live attenuated vaccines like the two discussed; these are composed of a live virus or other pathogenic organism that has been altered to reduce or eliminate its potential to produce disease. Also common are inactivated virus vaccines which use virus that has been killed, or rendered unable to replicate.

Vaccine companies have been reluctant to pursue these traditional approaches of vaccine design for HIV because of the risk that some small amount of HIV in a killed vaccine may not be adequately killed, which happened with early Salk polio vaccine, or that attenuated HIV could revert to a pathogenic strain or have long-term consequences we wouldn't know about for many years. But there are proponents pushing for each of these approaches.

Aside from these traditional vaccines, which are made from the disease causing organism, new "subunit" vaccines are composed of only part of the pathogen. One of these, against hepatitis B, is

prepared by recombinant biotechnology (genetic engineering). Most candidate AIDS vaccines to date have been of this type.

Vaccines have been developed for many other diseases that were once major afflictions of mankind. The incidence of diseases such as diphtheria, measles, mumps, whooping cough (pertussis), German measles (rubella), polio, and tetanus have declined dramatically as vaccination has become more common. Presently vaccines are in development for HIV, CMV, malaria, and other diseases.

Vaccination is a cost-effective weapon for disease prevention, which is amply and dramatically demonstrated by the total eradication of smallpox. There has not been a single naturally acquired case of smallpox since 1977 anywhere in the world. Despite this progress, more than 5 million infants worldwide continue to die each year from diseases that could be avoided by existing vaccines.

And, for economic or scientific reasons, vaccines are nonexistent or not readily available for several serious diseases. For example, more than 250 million people are chronically infected with hepatitis B virus, for which there is a relatively new and expensive vaccine. Malaria causes 1-2 million deaths per year (no vaccine yet, but possibly a partially effective candidate vaccine is in field trials). And despite unprecedented efforts, no effective vaccine has yet been developed against HIV, which has infected tens of millions of people.

It is also useful to remember that the number of infectious agents for which we have so far failed to develop a satisfactory vaccine is much greater than the number where we have been successful.

Cellular/humoral

We have learned much about immunology since the early days, one of the more important aspects of which is that there are two basic kinds of immunity: humoral or antibody immunity, which neutralizes infectious agents in the liquid (non cellular) part of the blood; and cellular or cell-mediated immunity, which kills infected cells.

Since it's possible to become infected with HIV as free virus, which antibodies could detect, or with infected cells, which are only susceptible to cellular immunity, many scientists believe both kinds of immunity will be needed for an AIDS vaccine that would prevent infection.

Another important element is the route of infection. Injection drug users are infected directly into their bloodstream. Sexual transmission is through mucosal surfaces, which have their own immune system, which we know very little about.

Recent advances in immunology have led to the development of new and promising vaccine strategies, and many of these are being tried to develop AIDS vaccines. While some are calling for a return to the traditional methods of vaccine development, which have greater risk but also perhaps greater chance of success, others are pushing for newer high-tech approaches because of the unique nature of this disease and challenge. In both cases it will take determination and a series of vaccines and human trials to develop products that will have impact on the epidemic.

Future articles will look at social, ethical, and political issues for vaccine trials, possible adverse reactions to HIV vaccines and other risks involved, funding, and the status of vaccines as therapy. ▼

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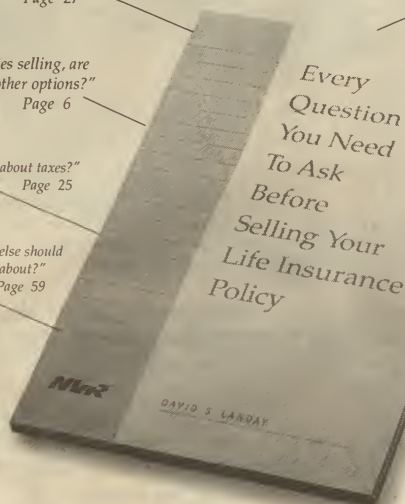
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Homosexual, Liar, Hypocrite

by Michael C. Botkin

In a weird reprisal of the Oscar Wilde trial of a century ago, a British Conservative member of Parliament just lost a libel suit he brought against a London tabloid. David Ashby, a proper reactionary and publicly anti-gay, was accused by the Sunday Times of sharing a bed with another man and having had an affair with a male doctor. The paper charged Ashby with being "a homosexual, a liar, and a hypocrite." The failure of his suit tends to confirm all three judgments.

It's very hard to win a libel suit. You have to prove both that the accusations are false and that the slur was intended maliciously. You really should only sue for libel when you have a very clear case, when the mere threat of a suit will likely shake out a retraction. If you actually have to go to trial, you're probably in trouble.

This is what Oscar Wilde found. When his lover's dad called him a "damned sodomite," Wilde sued for libel. Alas, it was pretty easy to prove that Wilde was indeed a sodomite (and the "damned" part was assumed to follow automatically); Wilde lost the suit and then was tried under the anti-gay laws and sentenced to hard labor. He was never the same.

It seems likely that Ashby will never be the same, either. "David Ashby... burst into tears after the verdict was announced and pushed away his estranged wife, Silvana, who had provided much of the evidence in support of the allegations," according to the Reuters report I read. I wonder if they would have put in the part about bursting into tears if he were straight. In any event, it was clearly the defection of his wife that sunk his case.

The best defense against charges of homosexuality is the sworn testimony of a loving wife.

Except when the testimonial is obviously false and forced — for example, Lisa Marie Presley's insistent gushing that she and Michael Jackson have a wonderful sex life — it usually serves to put ugly rumors to rest. When conservative Representative Bauman was caught having gay sex the first two times, he appeared on TV with his wife next to him. On his third slip, he threw in the towel, resigned, and began working the lecture circuit. However, if he'd wanted to keep on plugging, his wife would probably have been dragged out again, with the same effect.

In Ashby's case this crucial ally was instead a foe. Ashby claimed that his wife was "obsessed by the idea he might be homosexual." Alas, this was clearly true but seemed justified by the obvious fact that he was homosexual. When his wife complained of being lonely in the marriage, Ashby bought her a dog. This cavalier act both drove his wife away and undermined his suit.

Pajama partners

The trial boiled down to the paper's concrete accusation that Ashby had shared a bed with a male friend on vacation. His denial was weak: "Ashby, who faces a legal bill estimated at \$750,000 to cover the cost of the four-week trial, admitted to the court he had shared a bed with other male members of Parliament more than once but had only done so to save money." As economies go, it boomeranged pretty badly in the long run.

It's hard to work up much sympathy for Ashby. He played the game by the rules, which allows a fair amount of leeway in private behavior provided appearances are kept up. When he failed to keep up appearances, he lost. Trying to sue for libel merely compounded the failure. He who rises by the closet falls when the closet

door is ripped open.

A lawsuit against Georgia's Attorney General Michael J. Bowers (of *Bowers v. Hardwick* fame) is much more compelling. Robin Shahr had been offered a job by Bowers, but he withdrew the offer after learning that Ms. Shahr had a "commitment ceremony" with her female partner. Instead of denying everything, Bowers made a straightforward homophobic defense: hiring Ms. Shahr would imply that the state sanctioned same-sex marriages and would complicate the enforcement of state sodomy laws.

This defense worked at first, but Shahr just won on appeal. A three-judge panel ordered Bowers to show why the withdrawal was not a violation of her constitutional rights. Bowers has no ready answer for that one and is promising to take the case to the Supreme Court — after all, he did pretty well the last time he went that route with the *Hardwick* case.

Who stomps the glass?

A crucial element in Shahr's case was the nature of the commitment ceremony. It was a "private religious ceremony" performed by an official rabbi. The fact that it was private seemed to invalidate Bowers's claim that hiring Shahr would be making a public statement. And the fact that it was done by a recognized mainstream religion lent it a certain validity in addition to bringing in the issue of religious discrimination. The court, in its unanimous opinion, said:

Though the religious-based marriage in which Shahr participated was not marriage in a civil, legal sense, it was intimate and highly personal in the sense of affection, commitment and permanence. And as we have spelled out, it was inextricably entwined with Shahr's exercise of her religious beliefs.

The court therefore takes more exception to the violation of Shahr's religious rights than they do her sexual orientation rights. But it may be enough to win her the case.

It's lucky that Shahr had a mainstream wedding. I suspect that my own wedding ceremony, a feminist-pagan ritual on the shores of Devil's Kitchen Lake led by a local Wicca woman, would not have sparked as much sympathy from the court. But gays always get the most sympathy from heterosexuals when we're seen as trying to imitate them.

(My only question about a Jewish lesbian wedding is: who stomps on the glass?)

The Shahr case is an interesting contrast to the Ashby case. Ashby fought for his right to stay in the closet, and lost fair and square. Shahr, on the other hand, is fighting for the right not to stay in the closet, and is making a far better fight of it.

It reinforces for me a growing belief that queer marriage is the gay community's best shot at forcing some legal recognition and tolerance. Many of the people who flip out at the thought of gays in the military have little problem with us getting married. Even homophobes who hate gay rights bills as setting up "special" rights have to acknowledge that marriage is a special right that everybody else already has.

Also, our desire to formalize our relationships is seen, rightly or wrongly, as an attempt to ape heterosexual patterns and is encour-

aged as such. This suspicion also tends to make some queers leery of the demand, but even so I suspect that there is far greater consensus among the gay community on the desirability of being allowed to marry than there is on most issues.

Finally, fighting for the right to marry carries an immense moral and legal advantage. It is very difficult to come up with arguments that allowing queers to marry takes anything away from anyone else. In Hawaii, where a gay-marriage case is slowly wending its way through the courts, everyone except hard-core homophobes has essentially thrown in the towel. Now they're working toward some sort of deal whereby Hawaii has a set of comprehensive domestic partners laws that grant gays most of the rights otherwise denied them by the same-sex marriage ban.

This would satisfy the demands of the lawsuit without actually permitting gay marriages, which other states would then have to recognize. Some states have already passed laws (of doubtful constitutionality) to block this if it occurs — a backhanded recognition of how strong the case is.

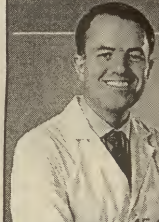
So the Shahr case is in the front lines of the gay rights struggle. It would really be sweet if Bowers, the man who did the most to hurt the gay community in the 1980s, got zapped for blatant discrimination. Keep your fingers crossed! ▼

Santa's Helpers




The Ward 5A staff at SF General helped make the Yuletide gay for the patients there with this festive tree strung with popcorn garlands. The Elizabeth Taylor Room was the site of this most recent addition and was brightened considerably by the workers' efforts.

Photo: Gregory H. Flischer



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ACT UP Golden Gate: meets Tues. nights, 7pm at 592 Castro St. Info: 252-9200.

ACT UP SF: committed to ending the AIDS crisis thru direct action. 1388 Haight St., #218 94117. Info: 522-2907.

AIDS Benefits Counselors: Professional review and counseling about benefits for people with AIDS/HIV+. Free. For intake scheduling, screening, referral, call 558-9845.

AIDS Community Research Consortium conducts HIV and AIDS clinical trials at sites located in San Mateo, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties. For a free listing of current trials available, call 800 864-ACRC.

AIDS Dementia Unit at St. Mary's Med. Center seeks volunteers. Call Ed Schultz. 476-4976.

AIDS Health Project: Mixed caregivers and women's caregivers groups; drop-in groups for HIV+ and PWA. more. Info, intake interviews: 476-3902.

AIDS/HIV Nightline provides telephone emotional support and crisis counseling. Volunteers needed: training begins soon. 984-1902.

AIDS-Related Vision Loss Support Group meets 1st & 3rd Tues., 1pm at Rose Resnick Lighthouse, 214 Van Ness. 431-1481, ext. 209 or 215.

AIDS Treatment Education Network provides free educational forums for people with HIV/AIDS. 284-6237.

Alternative Family Project offers support group for persons with cancer or AIDS, led by Dr. Syd Strong. Wed., 3:30pm. Call 566-5683.

BAHAN (Bay Area HIV Advocacy Network) is a grassroots program of the SF AIDS Foundation: phone/fax tree action alerts, gov't lobbying, HIV Policy Watch newsletter. Info: Ryan Clary 864-5855 ext. 3032.

Baker Places provides housing for people with AIDS who have substance abuse and/or mental health issues. For info or intake call 284-1740.

Bay Positives: Provides recreational and emotional support for people up to 26 years old living with HIV. Ongoing support groups meet weekly. 487-1616.

Bereavement Groups for family, friends and partners who have lost a loved one to AIDS. Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF. 750-4404.

Boy + Boy: actions which promote safe sex among young gay and bi men. Tues., 7pm at Stop AIDS Project, 201 Sanchez. 431-2ACT xBOY.

Brothers Network Support Groups: HIV and Recovery, Mondays, 6:30pm, 973 Market, Suite 650. Call for schedule of other groups: 356-8140.

California AIDS Ride 3 is looking for riders and volunteers. Call Eddie Kaufman at 908-0400 ext. 403.

Davies Med. Center: Free classes for HIV+ people in needlepoint (Tues., Wed.), exercise (Tues., Thurs.), stress reduction (Mon.). Castro at

Duboce, Info: 565-6369.

Deaf AIDS Center at UCSF Center on Deafness offers services to those with HIV experiencing hearing loss or deafness. Counseling, resources, practical support. Interpreting services and assisting devices on loan. 476-7600 (TTY) or 476-4980 (voice).

Gay Fathers Support Network of Santa Rosa meets first Sun. of every month, 7pm. Info: Mark (707) 523-6941.

Gay/Lesbian Legal Referral Service seeks gay-sensitive law students as Law Clerks, one 3-hr. shift/week at GLRS office, Oakland. Info: 621-3900.

Hepatitis "B" Testing and vaccinations for young (15-23) gay and bisexual men, free. Berkeley Free Clinic, 2339 Durant Ave., Berkeley. Sun., 5-7pm. (510) 644-0425.

HIV/AIDS Services at Operation Concern: Ongoing support groups, individual and couples counseling, drop-in groups every week. Issues for HIV- men, men with AIDS/ARC, partners and survivors. For information/intake, call Jill, 626-7000 x199, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St.

HIV and African-American Gay/Bisexual Men support groups every Wed., 6:30-8pm. Brothers Network, 973 Market, Suite 650. 356-8140.

Introduction to HIV Treatment Options: Free presentation. Wed., Jan. 3, 7:30pm. Project Inform Office, 1965 Market, Suite 220. 558-8669.

INVENTION sponsors support

groups for HIV negative men Tues. evenings, 7:30pm. MCC, 150 Eureka. 522-1785.

Kaiser Permanente Hospice seeks volunteers to assist with patients with AIDS or cancer. 7-week training session begins in Jan. Info: 202-3173.

Lyon-Martin Women's Health Center: Primary health care for women by women. Counseling, anonymous testing, prevention education, support groups for HIV + women. 1748 Market St. 565-7667.

Martin De Porres House of Hospitality needs volunteers to work in soup kitchen, breakfast and lunch. 225 Potrero. 552-0240.

MCC Chronic/Life-Threatening Support Group: Every Wed., 1-3pm, at MCC, 150 Eureka St. Free, drop-in. Call 863-4434.

Positive Resource provides work referrals to people with HIV/AIDS. To list a job opening or attend an employment opportunity orientation mtg call 928-1448.

Q. Action: Work with other queer boys to stop HIV transmission among young gay and bi men. Info: 431-2ACT.

Qi Gong for People with HIV: \$1 per class. Mon., Wed. 11am; Thurs. 6pm. American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine Community Clinic, 450 Connecticut St. Info: 282-9603.

Substance Abuse Counseling for Lesbians and Gay Men at Operation Concern, 1853 Market St. Operation Recovery provides affordable,

effective treatment. Drop-in groups: for women, 7-8 pm Mondays; for men, 8-9 pm Thursdays. For information/ intake, call Jill, 626-7000 Ext. 199.

Tambayan is a support network for gay, lesbian and transgender Filipino in the Bay Area. Thurs., 7pm at Filipino Task Force on AIDS, 1540 Market St., Suite 325. 703-9880.

The Transcendental Meditation Center has scholarships for low income people with HIV. Call Paul Brown at 931-1621.

UCSF AIDS Health Project offers: (1) ongoing groups for persons diagnosed with KS; (2) Tues. night support group for women who are caregivers or family members of PWAs; (3) support group for HIV+ African-American heterosexual men. Info: 476-3902.

Visiting Nurses and Hospice of SF seeks volunteers to help provide care to people with AIDS, cancer. Training for new volunteers begins Jan. 23. Call 750-6800 x21699.

Volunteer haircutters needed for HIV patient services at Davies Med. Cntr. Once a month, 3-hr. shift on Mon. Call Barbara at 565-6374.

Yoga for HIV series Jan. 3-Feb. 28, Wed. 6:30pm at G.G. Metro. Comm. Church, 1508 Church. Reduce stress, create positive beliefs, meet long-term survivors. Call 752-6865.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 200455

The following person(s) are doing business as RON'S RAINBOW TREASURES, 3886 17th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114: RONALD LEE NICHOLSON, 4016 18th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed RONALD LEE NICHOLSON. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on November 29, 1995.

Dec 7, 14, 21, 28, 1995.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 974177

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of BIKRAM JIT BRAR for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that BIKRAM JIT BRAR has filed an application proposing the name be change to VIKRAM BRAR. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before the Court in Department, X-4 on the 17th day of January, 1996, at 9:00 o'clock am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of the Order be published in the THE BAY AREA REPORTER a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 30th day of November, 1995.

Dec 14, 21, 28, 1995, Jan 4, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 200917

The following person(s) are doing business as NEW CHINA RESTAURANT, 272 McAlister St., San Francisco, CA 94102: BUU TANG DU, 365 Huntington Ave., San Bruno, CA 94066. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed BUU TANG DU. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Dec. 21, 1995.

Dec 28, 1995 Jan 4, 11, 18, 1996.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 974687

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of JUDITH ANN VIDERS for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that JUDITH ANN VIDERS has filed an application proposing the name be change to JUDY GOLDEN. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before the Court in Department, X-4 on the 1st day of February, 1996, at 9:00 o'clock am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of the Order be published in the THE BAY AREA REPORTER a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 15th day of December, 1995.

Dec 28, 1995, Jan 4, 11, 18, 1996.

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The Out There 50

The 2nd Annual Aiva Nidnacs
Memorial Out There 50 List of
SF's Queer Movers and Shakers

by You the Readers (so don't blame us)

Note: Last year, the late, great Aiva Nidnacs took it upon herself to figure out just who are "the characters who create the shape of San Francisco's queer culture, frequently behind the scenes." The poor darling spent far too much time conducting "exhaustive interviews with the Bay Area opinion makers" to compile her line-up. What did she get for all her grief? A few words of thanks, weeks of moaning and groaning, a threatened lawsuit, and an angry call from a semiclosed inductee's publicist.

Not wishing the same upon ourselves, your e'er-so-cle'er Out There Columnists — Pithy Galore, Daniel Mangin, Tessie Two-Step and Justin Zane — decided to let our vast readership decide who's really who in town. Fortunately, we received hundreds of completed ballot forms, so we didn't have to make up a list like we feared we might have to. Below are your choices for SF's Most Influential Homos, with a sampling of your more piquant comments about each in quotes: If you're not on the list, and think you should be, you're probably having your hair done in the wrong place — or you didn't badger enough of your friends to vote for you.

1. Roberta Achtenberg, politician, because she "ought to win something this year"; "stood up to Jesse Helms"; "is a national lesbian voice"; "she helped whip Frank Jordan's pimply ass"; "will never sell out (except giving her 28 percent to Willie)"; "is nicer than Carole Migden."

2. Marga Gomez, comedian, because she "is our Latina Lesbian Goddess on the rise"; "has the best comic timing in the city"; "makes me laugh in Spanish"; "is generous with her time"; "is witty, pretty and gay."

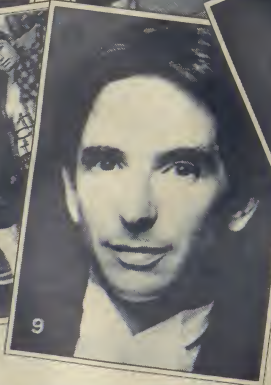
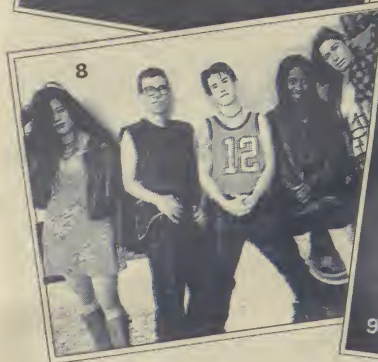
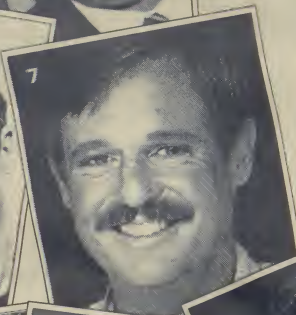
3. Tom Ammiano, Supervisor, because he "is our funniest yet most sensible supervisor"; "brooks no bullshit whether it comes from Frank Jordan, Willie Brown or ACT-UP"; "hasn't made a fool of himself yet as a supervisor"; "went to Washington and raised hell when homophobes greeted him with gloves on."

4. Jim Hormel, philanthropist, because he "is a great ambassador-at-large for our community"; "has the ear of the President"; "is older and rich, but unfortunately unavailable"; "is funding lots of gay causes."

5 & 6. Rob Epstein/Jeffrey Friedman, filmmakers, because they "are our double Oscar-winning documentary divas"; "if the Academy honors them so should we"; "The Celluloid Closet will change the way people think about gays in the cinema"; and because "Epstein's going to win his third Oscar."

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OUT THERE
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BOX



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movies
really cross
over in '95?

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John Carr at
ACT's
'Gaslight'

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Quentin Tarantino's latest is DOA

'Four Rooms' and a Funeral

by Matthew Kennedy and Mark Cromwell

Welcome to the Mon-signor Hotel in Hollywood, where hapless bellboy Ted (Tim Roth) totes for the guests from hell. He's having a rough night. There's a coven of witches, a gun-packing maniac, his rope-bound wife and two drunken bastards who propose to hack off somebody's pinky. On a lighter note, there are two guys kissing, which causes a heart attack. Don't forget a stinking corpse hiding in a mattress, a fire, a hypodermic needle, child neglect and two episodes of flying puke. It's not as funny as it sounds.

Four Rooms, four writers, four directors, four segments. For what? Consider the concept. Allison Anders, Alexandre Rockwell, Robert Rodriguez and Quentin Tarantino directed and wrote various segments that have been compiled into one full-length film. It's been done before to failure — *Aria* was a pseudo-high-brow MTV stew with contributions from Altman and Godard



Tim Roth in *Four Rooms*.

among others, and New York Stories sank under the weight of bad Coppola, bad Scorsese and mediocre Allen. The *Four Rooms* debacle belongs primarily to Tarantino as its big-name direc-

tor, actor and executive producer. To borrow a Tarantinoism, this movie is a piece of fucking bullshit. His gift is suspect — were *Reservoir Dogs* and *Pulp Fiction* flukes?

What could possibly have inspired Tarantino to choose this as his follow-up to *Pulp Fiction*? One unqualified hit and the man falls apart. Thrill to Tarantino stuffing an entire doughnut into his needy mouth with champagne as lubricant. Self-destruction isn't pretty, but there it is as the reptilian drunk Tarantino rants with Bruce Willis in offensive pseudo-black street talk. Go invent your own language, boys. With their privilege, they look like the devil spawn of second-string rat packers. Does Tarantino think this is funny? Is this his funeral or his way of telling Hollywood to get fucked? What arrogance, what weakness, what waste.

An odd assortment of wannabes and hangers-on have checked into *Four Rooms*. With bare breasts akimbo, demi-talents lone Skye and Sammi Davis incant to

their virgin goddess Diana. Honest! Madonna, still desperately seeking a movie career, keeps her breasts covered, if not her dignity. Marisa Tomei stops by, too. The chipmunk-cheeked actress is proof that Oscar voters (Best Supporting Actress, *My Cousin Vinny*) live to regret their decisions. Jennifer Beals tries channeling Uma Thurman, but is reduced to a recitation of penis-slang. Of the women in the cast, for whom Tarantino et al. show a consistent disdain, the unbilled whore-corpse (Patricia Vonne Rodriguez) is the most convincing.

Speaking of prompt career slippage, Antonio Banderas gets handed the hot-headed Latin loverboy part and can't even do that persuasively. As for Tim Roth — sad, sad, sad. He has been seriously good on several occasions, particularly under Tarantino's past guidance. Here, however, with four directors telling him what to do, Roth is

unfunny, manic and effeminate. Martin Short must have cost too much.

At its best, *Four Rooms* resembles naughty outtakes of *Love, American Style*. It's not good enough to board *The Love Boat*. As if to highlight his creative shortcomings, Tarantino admits to stealing from Alfred Hitchcock. In music that's called sampling; here it's plagiarism. To ease his tortured audience further, Tarantino invokes Jerry Lewis' *The Bellboy* and The Who's *Quadrophenia*. The title cartoon has minor retro charm as a *Pink Panther* rip-off. Anything would be welcome relief from this banal, self-indulgent claptrap. Listen closely and you can hear the sound of a career gasping for life. Tarantino has a thin oeuvre to get away with such excreta. Don't feed the animal; it'll only encourage him. ▼

Four Rooms is in general release.



Four Rooms producer Lawrence Bender (center back row) with directors (left to right) Robert Rodriguez, Allison Anders, Alexandre Rockwell, and Quentin Tarantino.

Shumaker's Swan Song



It's been a decade-long affair between thespian Helen Shumaker and archetypal bad girl Mona Rogers, the star, of course, of *Mona Rogers in Person*, the creation of playwright Philip-Dimitri Galas. However, all good things must come to an end, and this San Francisco tour of *Mona* marks Shumaker's final appearance in the role. The good news is that La Shumaker will be presenting two gala performances of the solo spectacular on New Year's Eve at 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. at the Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason Street. Can you think of a better antidote to all this holiday cheer that's inflicted on us every year? I certainly can't. Enjoy the champagne (lots of it) and party favors, and be sure to buy a raffle ticket — you just might be the lucky winner of your own Little Fatty doll. Hopefully, you'll treat her nicer than Mona treats hers. Tickets (\$25/8 p.m., \$30/10 p.m.) are available by calling 415/956-8497. ▼

— Patrick D. Hoctel

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CHANGING OUR MINDS
The Story of Dr. Evelyn Hooker
Dir. Richard Schickel US 1991
From the dir. of *Harvey Milk*, this is a compelling tribute to a little known psychologist. Hooker was responsible for providing the necessary scientific evidence that led to the removal of homosexuality from the American Psychiatric Association manual. (75m)
JAN 3: Wednesday: 2:00, 7:30 & 9:15

NO SKIN OFF MY ASS FAG PUNK BLOW JOB
Dir. Bruce La Bruce Canada 1992 (77m, 16mm)
This XXX-rated film is a gay remake of Robert Altman's *That Cold Day in the Park*. Director La Bruce plays a Karen Carpenter-loving hairstylist who is helplessly attracted to a lonely and aloof skinhead. This sexually explicit comedy is "truly for anyone... who wants to see a movie that offers something... a little different." -*Film Threat*
JAN 4: Thursday: 7:30 & 9:15

Polyester
Dir. John Waters US 1981 (86m)
A comic melodrama centered around the mock-tragic life of Francine Fiskew. Although she has hit the peak of her housewife's dreams, all the velvet-covered furniture and drag-dy fashions in the world can't hide the fact that Francine's life just plain stinks. Stars Divine, Tee Hunter, Edith Massey & Mink Stole! I
JAN 5: Friday: 7:15 & 9:15

Wiestock Like mo'ie
Dir. Barry Shils US 1994
A documentary about an annual event in NYC that's gone from big hair and big fun to big business as well. With the Wrong Foot of Hollywood and drag as the latest media darling, *Wiestock: the Movie* remains true to its roots. With Ru Paul, Lypanka and more. (85m)
JAN 6: Sat: 2:00, 4:00, 7:15 & 9:15

THE YEAR OFF
A Litany for Survival: The Life and Work of AUDRE LORDE
Dirs. Ada Gay Griffin & Michelle Parkerson
A Portrait of an eloquent poet, whose writing articulated some of the most important social and political issues of the century. Lorde embodied the connections between three dynamic social justice movements: the Civil Rights movement, the Women's movement, and the struggle for Lesbian and Gay rights. (90m) US 1995
JAN 7: Sunday: 2:00, 4:00, 7:15 & 9:15

girls and boys briefs
This collection of lesbian and gay shorts, many by Bay Area media makers, covers the gamut from narrative to experimental and includes the first lesbian infomercial. Make this program a must-see. (approx 100m, 16mm, video)
Featuring Gretchen Hildebrand's, *How He Goes*; Dennis Conroy's, *45 RPM Love*; David E. Johnston's, *Life Saver*; Lizzie Donahue's, *I Became a Lesbian and So Can You*; Rick Rubin's, *Playing Posedon*
JAN 8: Monday: 7:15 & 9:20

Daddy and the Muscle Academy
Plays with P(ain) Truth (15m)
Dir. Ippo Pohjola Finland 1992
This documentary about Tom of Finland (considered to be the Norman Rockwell of gay erotica) is a fascinating look into the gay leather world. Tom's hypermasculine drawings have influenced such artists as Fassbinder & Mapplethorpe and have had an enormous influence on gay identity. (55m, 16mm)
JAN 9: Tuesday: 7:30 & 9:15

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The Year Gay Cinema Became as Sappy and Obvious as the Mainstream Was Queer Film Boom a Bust?

by Daniel Mangin

For what it's worth, we've finally made it. If *Jeffrey*, *Bar Girls*, *Lie Down With Dogs*, *Priest*, *The Sum of Us*, *The Incredibly True Adventure of Two Girls in Love* and other entries in the 1995 miniboom of queer cinema proved anything, it's that gay filmmaking can be just as sappy and obvious as the mainstream.

Not that some of the above works weren't diverting, but for all the additional product, it's been just as hard this year as any other to come up with a list of 10 queer flicks that really knocked one's socks off — except for *Frisk*, which knocked them off, but unfortunately not with its virtuosity.

Anyone paying attention to the bottom line will note two things about the 1995 box office. No matter how much publicity they got, films with a predominantly lesbian/gay focus — the pictures listed above, plus *Strawberry and Chocolate*, *When Night Is Falling*, *Wigstock*, *A Man of No Impor-*



Ballot Measure 9

ance, *Nadja* and others — made less than \$5 million. Some barely grossed \$1 million — which is to say they didn't "cross over" terribly much.

The big exception of course

was *To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything Julie Newmar*, which, with a \$37 million (and counting) domestic haul, will probably outperform all the independent lesbian/gay releases combined. It doesn't take a brain surgeon to recognize that only the film with cartoonish drag stereotypes (however lovable) drew in straight patrons in any appreciable number.

Although there are a few still in the Hollywood hopper, including United Artists' *It's My Party*, don't expect a flood of big-budget projects that concentrate solely on lesbian or gay lives. The figures simply don't support their production. Jodie Foster's *Home for the Holidays* — which had a substantial gay presence (Robert Downey Jr. as Holly Hunter's gay brother) but didn't center on the homosexual experience — or the slyly inclusive *The Brady Bunch Movie* will more likely be the norm.

The Incredibly True Adventure of Two Girls in Love may have done "well" with an approximately \$3 million U.S. return on a low-six-figure investment, but this is chicken feed. Major studios are more likely to base future decisions on *Jeffrey*'s grosses. *Jeffrey*

had a lot going for it — a popular genre (comedy), decent production values and name recognition, good publicity and the participation of some high-profile actors — but at this writing it hasn't even topped \$4 million.

As Fine Line marketer Liz Manne pointed out in a Dec. 10 *Los Angeles Times* piece, compromises in content will always be required to attain broader exposure. Mustn't frighten the mainstream with anything as subversive as having queers' lips touch. Or truly exploring our relationships. The good news in the *LA Times* article was that there is a solid market for lesbian and gay films that is better than that for most foreign films, which means there is an economic incentive for more production, at least at the art-house/independent level.

But let's forget the future and focus on the recent past, which did have some exquisitely queer mo-

ments, mostly at local film festivals straight and gay. This writer's homo faves of '95, in alphabetical order, are:

Ballot Measure 9

Heather MacDonald's chronicle of the "cultural war" waged over gay rights in Oregon illustrated unequivocally how inflammatory antigay rhetoric encourages violence. Despite this, the film makes it equally clear that for gays increased visibility is the best response.

Black Is, Black Ain't

Having AIDS made him realize, says the late Marlon Riggs, how urgent it was for him to communicate to black people "so that we start to look at each other and see each other." *Black Is* investigates the roots of black identity — from its most superficial representations to those of the deepest cul-

Continued on next page



Black Is ... Black Ain't: Marlon Riggs, right, with the Deacon of Unity Church in Los Angeles.

LesBiGay Trends, Performances of Note in '95

Best Lesbian Character:

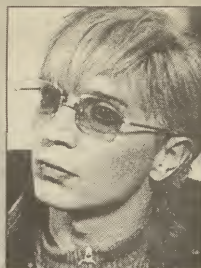
Josiane Balasko in *French Twist*. Runners-up: Gina Gershon as the sly, coke-sniffing Cristal in the Joe Eszterhas-Paul Verhoeven mess-terpiece *Showgirls*, and wacky Marta Balletbo-Coll, playing several characters in *Costa Brava*.

Best Gay Male Character:

Bruce LaBruce in *Super 81/2*. Runner-up: Gael Morel as confused, budding gay teen Francois in *Wild Reeds*.

Most Promising Feature-Directing Debuts:

Marta Balletbo-Coll is angling to be the Woody Allen of lesbian cinema. *Costa Brava*, a romantic comedy set in Barcelona, wasn't perfect, but had verve and an inventive narrative. Local director Nick Katsapetses's \$9,000 *Get Over It*, a comedy about a guy whose not-terribly-helpful friends attempt to comfort him after a difficult break-up, had a disastrous SF gay film fest screening. The film's primitive sound recording requires better acoustics than the Castro Theatre provides, but audiences elsewhere have appreciated the snappy dialogue and pseudo-nasty humor.



Bruce LaBruce

Most Bogus Revival:

Our hats go off to Elliott Levine, the mad manipulator of the Roxie, for conning several of SF's high-profile critics into declaring *Cruising* a "lost classic." Puhleezee.

Grooviest Revival:

Clubfoot Orchestra's spiffy new score for G.W. Pabst's *Pandora's Box*, which features the screen's first major lesbian character, was a definite treat.

Cheesiest Drama About an "Important" Subject:

Somewhere in Mel Chionglo's *Midnight Dancers* there's a critique of economic and social conditions of the Philippines — the film's just too emotionally and erotically overwrought to pursue the issues.

Best Soundtrack:

Frisk (Really.)

Best Nongay Film by a Gay or Purportedly Gay Director:

Todd Haynes's *Safe*, an eerie look at a woman overtaken by a debilitating disease. Runner-up: *Batman Forever*.

Queerest Purportedly Straight Film:

The Doom Generation, during which Gregg Araki keeps James Duval and Jonathan Schaech in continual homoerotic suspension. Runner-up: *The Brady Bunch Movie*, which featured Marcia Brady's lesbian pal and a gaggle of gay gags.

— Daniel Mangin

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Jodhi May and Joely Richardson in *Sister My Sister*.

Film Boom

Continued from page 32

tural and historical significance. The goal? To pinpoint what divides and to celebrate what unites African-Americans. It's a bold, startling farewell project from the maker of *Tongues Untied*.

French Twist

This film, a.k.a. *Bushwhacked* ("Gazon Maudit," slang for "dyke" in the original French) is a daffy comedy about a butch lesbian (played by director Josiane Balasko) who befriends a housewife (Victoria Abril) whose husband (Alain Chabat) is cheating on her. A Mill Valley Film Festival entry, *French Twist* opens commercially in early 1996.

Frisk

(Just kidding.)

I Can't Sleep

Claire Denis's film is based loosely on a real-life series of murders of middle-aged women by a black drag performer. Denis dances around all her story's potential pitfalls and delivers an intense, thoughtful drama that reflects on "outsiders" without resorting to cliché. Richard Courcet manages to make his murderer complex, a man whose behavior shocks but who also elicits a de-

gree of sympathy. A pox on Sony Classics for picking up *I Can't Sleep* and then never playing it in San Francisco.

I Like You, I Like You Very Much

Experimental filmmaker Hiroyuki Oki's take on youthful gay desire is a cleverly assembled piece that is by turns tortured, near-pornographic and almost quaint. Oki's angst-ridden main characters ponder such issues as love and monogamy, and at times become obsessed, but an endearing naïveté underpins the proceedings.

Portrait of a Young Girl in the Late Sixties, In Brussels

Every time a press colleague curses this town's ceaseless parade of film festivals, I try to remember films like Chantal Akerman's perfectly crafted tale of a budding lesbian. It wouldn't have gotten exposure anywhere else but in a festival (in this case, the SF International). A young girl drops out of school but hangs out with one of her schoolmates after classes each day. The two explore the streets of Brussels in search of a sexual education that, for one of them, is not what she expected.

Sister My Sister

This is the third film about the

bizarre relations between two maids, sisters, that end in the 1930s murder of their imperious French employer. One of *Sister's* predecessors was blatantly political (upper-class exploits the underclass) and the other accentuated the situation's absurdity. Nancy Meckler's version sticks closer to the facts, and with some sharp performances, particularly by Joely Richardson and Julie Waters, is easily the best of the three.

Super 8 1/2

Canadian director Bruce LaBruce stars in his semiunderground hit as a ditzzy, washed-up porn performer who thinks he's the second coming of Andy Warhol. A film-within-the-film concerns a lesbian who is purportedly making a documentary about LaBruce but is really using him for her own nefarious ends. LaBruce begins and ends his film in a straitjacket, the victim of his own, media-wrought delusions. Though a bit overlong, *Super 8 1/2* is a witty kick in the pants.

Unzipped

Douglas Kieve's documentary peeks in on the manic life of Isaac Mizrahi. As befits a film about a designer, *Unzipped's* inventive form — fanciful editing, lots of handheld camera, mixing of different film stocks and archival, black-and-white and color footage — is as pleasing as its content. As for Mizrahi, you've gotta like a guy who's deep enough to recognize that "between Mary Tyler Moore and Jackie Kennedy, they shaped this country."

Wild Reeds

André Téchiné's wistful tale follows four students — three male (including a gay) and one female — at a French country boarding school. The unassuming narrative skillfully represents the adolescents' learning process and combination of adult input and direct experience that results in maturity. ▼



Naomi Campbell, Isaac Mizrahi, and Linda Evangelista in Douglas Kieve's *Unzipped*.

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Positive: Life With HIV Puts Human Face on AIDS Up Close and Personal

by Paul Bollwinkel

For most Americans, AIDS has become little more than an irritating flicker on the evening news. The lack of coverage is a reflection of how little people care about one of the greatest tragedies of the 20th century. But hey, who wants to be reminded of a disease so hopeless, so ugly, so gay when there are stories about mad bombers and celebrity murderers to cover, sto-

ries that offer more conventional drama and the promise of a dramatic denouement? The tragedy of AIDS in our time is wrapped up in people and lifestyles that this country has hardly begun to comprehend. The Oklahoma bomber and O.J. are hometown boys gone bad; people with AIDS live on another planet.

Positive: Life With HIV has been designed to change all that. Almost four hours long, this ambitious, multi-formatted series (airs

on KQED-9 January 2 at 8:30 p.m.) looks at PWAs with a focus unlike anything ever shown on television. It bends over backward to broaden the limited picture many Americans have of the disease — IV drug users, hemophiliacs, heterosexual women, lesbians, Native Americans, Hispanics, African Americans and Asians all get a chance to tell their stories. Inevitably, though, it's gay white men — through sheer numbers alone — who speak the loudest about this disease and what it has wrought.

Divided into four one-hour segments (all four episodes — "Community," "Identity," "Care," and "Fighting For Our Lives" — will be shown in one evening), the series was filmed over the last three years using more than 20 independent production teams. The film and video artists employ a variety of styles to explore the ways people with HIV create bonds among themselves, handle personal issues like dating and sex, and how they search for health and emotional care through a variety of means, from traditional medicine to herbs and acupuncture. The final hour looks at efforts by PWAs to challenge the system through personal and political activism.

Some of the people and settings are familiar (needle users in Harlem, urban gay couples) while others (a hemophiliac in Oklahoma, a young Navajo man in Arizona, a Puerto Rican grandmother) should prove eye-opening to viewers unexposed to the array of



Photo: Jeff Day

In "Identity" NYC's AIDS Theater Project performs a rousing musical parody on stigma wherein waiters break plates amidst the irrational fears of their dining customers.

Americans who have contracted HIV. Sadly, it's unlikely that those viewers will bother to watch.

What they'll miss is a mixed bag of talking heads, documentary segments, dance, satire, stand-up comedy, performance art and animation. Using colorful graphics and music, the program glides seamlessly and quickly through its stories and performance bits without the need for linking voice-over narration. But with four hours of material and few, if any, segments more than 10 minutes long, the quality is predictably uneven.

The two strongest segments are in the episode called "Care." One of them is particularly good, Gregg Bordowitz's "Patrick Mangan," an eerie, intimate look at a gay man in Queens who calmly and matter-of-factly describes the plans he's made for death. Scrupulously organized, he takes us on a guided tour of his apartment, starting with a large black file case that holds medical and financial records. Antiques and important personal items are color-coded with removable dots so that his inheritors will get exactly what he wants for them. Stone-faced and distant, Patrick even holds up the suits he's to be buried in — three, of different sizes, depending on his weight at the time of his death. "Patrick Mangan" is a painful reminder of how commonplace death has become.

Much more inspiring is producer/director Veronica Selver's "Mary, Sinead and Jennifer," which introduces a 40ish San Francisco woman with HIV who has found a guardian to care for her 15-year-old daughter after she's gone. The three women talk poignantly about Mary's illness and the difficult transition Sinead will have to make when Jennifer becomes her "new mother."

Other noteworthy documentary segments include "Grady Infectious Disease Program," about an Atlanta clinic that emphasizes care over medicine; "Stephanie," a charming mix of words and drawings from a 10-year-old girl whose father died of AIDS and whose mother has the virus; "Stand Up Harlem," a look at a community program that provides housing and HIV/AIDS services; and "Cora Zabala," about a grandmother with AIDS who shares advice and insights through a series of "video letters" shown on Puerto Rican television.

Between the documentaries are interviews with a recurring "chorus" of HIV-positive people, satirical bits of comedy called "Tips From Tab Lloyd," and animated excerpts from *Queer* and *Loathing*, David Feinberg's hu-

morous book about living with AIDS. Marga Gomez pops up as an urban angel in leather and lace offering pointed political observations, and choreographer David Rousseve provides periodic splashes of generic modern dance. The late Nalty Killeen offers stand-up comedy that isn't particularly funny, and "Sweet Honey in the Rock" performs "Breaths" over a video celebrating the AIDS quilt.



Photo: LeRoy Chen

Jeff Day, 20, comments Holden Caulfield-style on coming of age in the HIV era.

While *Positive: Life With HIV* is calculated to use the experience of ordinary people and the talents of (mostly gay) artists to make the lives of people living with HIV accessible to the masses, at four hours the series is almost too much of a good thing. By turns moving, dispassionate, informative, repetitive, somber and amusing, too many of the segments strike the same emotional chord. The relentless expressions of fear, anger, rejection and frustration along with hope, strength and pride will be familiar to conscientious gay viewers, who may see the series as simply a new-fangled vehicle moving through familiar terrain.

Still, credit is due to the producers (AIDS FILMS, with sponsorship from Minneapolis-based ITVS and funding from PBS) for undertaking such an important project at a time when interest in AIDS is at an all-time low. For people living with AIDS — as either patients, caregivers, family or friends — this is a show that may work best when taped and watched in small doses. The rest of the world should be required to see the whole thing in one long sitting. ▼

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My Completely Subjective Top 10 List Of Queer Interest

by Adrian Roberts

I love the term "of queer interest." It's so vague. Record company publicists love it, especially when they're promoting an artist to the queer press. Atlantic Records even went so far as to create a Gay Marketing division this past year, surely a sign of things to come. We are a target market.

The irony here is that "of queer interest" doesn't even imply that the subject itself is queer — only that queers would probably be interested, as if all queer people like the same things. That said, I present my annual Top 10 List of Albums of Queer Interest in '95. It should be noted that at least half of these are, indeed, by queer artists — just so you know.

The Blue Up? Spool Forka Dish (Columbia)

The Blue Up? feels like a secret. Hardly anyone has heard of this amazing all-female trio from Minneapolis, led by the freakish fairy goddess Rachael Olson. The band should have been this year's Next Big Thing, but apparently Columbia had no idea how to market a mesmerizing, well-produced album filled with layered female vocals, shimmering guitars, and brilliant songwriting. So they dumped them.

Boy George Cheapness and Beauty (Virgin)

Considering how awful his previous solo outings were, no one had any right to expect an album quite this good from Boy George. But by tapping his punk roots, he fashioned himself a stunner of a comeback album, replete with glam-rock stylings and explicitly homo lyrics. Too bad homophobic

radio programmers were too spineless to play the record.

Extra Fancy Sinner Man (Diablo Musica)

This is the queer rock album you've been waiting for. Intense and powerful, this is how rock music sounds when it's being sung by someone as in-your-face-and-out as Brian Grillo. These sexy Angelinos were the talk of the town after their electrifying Folsom Street Fair performance. Expect them to become huge, especially after this record gets re-released next year — as soon as they finish inking their record deal with Atlantic.

Mr. Bungle Disco Volante (Warner Bros.)

These local art-damaged punks sound at times like a demented exotica lounge band from hell. They call it danceable funk-metal, but it's so much more. Fusing together elements of techno, jazz, noise,

cabaret, and carnival music, they've managed to create one of the most uncommercial records of the year. The fact that they're signed to a major label simply boggles the mind.

Portishead Dummy (Go! Discs/London)

Somewhere between a red-velvet lounge and a trip-hop nightclub lies the retro-futuristic music of Portishead. Geoff Barrow masterminds the cinematic soundscapes and dub-style rhythms while chanteuse Beth Gibbons provides the bluesy voice and melancholic lyrics. Dark, emotional, atmospheric, swooning — these are nothing less than torch songs for the new millennium.

Prick Prick (Nothing/Interscope)

"Everything Prick writes sounds...wrong," says Trent Reznor of Nine Inch Nails, one of the producers on this bristling



Photo: Adrian Roberts

Jody Coyote and Donna Dresch of Portland dyke-rockers Team Dresch.



Photo: Harvey Wang

Portishead: Torch songs for the new millennium.



The Blue Up?: Carolyn Rush, Rachael Olson, and Renee Bracci

debut album. Though that may sound like a slam, it's meant as a compliment. Melding a '70s glam-rock sensibility with '90s industrial buzz, leader Kevin McMahon pours on so many layers of distortion that you don't even realize that they're pop songs, until you find yourself humming them in your sleep.

Senser Stacked Up (Ultimate)

I detest most rap music, due in part to its often-violent, misogynist content, not to mention the one-dimensional quality of the music. So imagine a rap record that I do like and you get this stunning, politicized debut album from Britain's Senser, filled with intelligent raps and a dynamic sound—

Continued on page 37



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Ten Memorable Reads from '95 Yearbooks

by Roberto Friedman

Breaking the Surface
The Dream Police
The Hurry-Up Song
Jack the Modernist (reissue)
Lytton Strachey
Playing With the Edge
Rat Bohemia
Skinned Alive
Toby's Lie
Young Man from the Provinces

Despite appearances, this is not a Top Ten list. Hey, no one can read everything. The ten books briefly noted here are simply highlights from my reading year, and they reflect my idiosyncratic tastes: you'll notice I have a predilection for fiction. I also enjoyed, and could well have listed: *Wonder Boys* by Michael Chabon (Villard); *Mysterious Skin* by Scott Heim (HarperCollins); *Safe As Houses* by Alex Jeffers (Faber and Faber); and Will Roscoe's *Queer Spirits*, *A Gay Men's Myth Book* (Beacon Press). Also, if only I had

snagged the review copies, I would have spouted copy about Jim Grimsley's *Dream Boy* (Algonquin) and Gore Vidal's *Palimpsest* (Random House), both of which are on my must-read list for the new year.

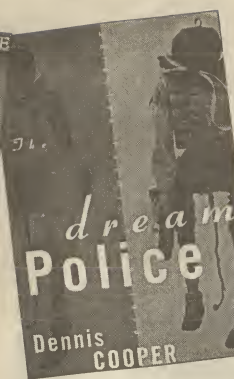
Breaking the Surface
 by Greg Louganis
 with Eric Marcus
 (Random House, \$23)

You have to give Louganis credit for courage and honesty in coming out as gay and HIV-positive in a big way, withstanding media scrutiny (including the notorious Barbara Wawa "blood-in-the-pool" brouhaha), and still remaining adorable. When I met him at his hotel room during the book tour, he was shy, wet from the shower, and generous with his time. His book is a classic in the sweet-little-boy-turned-Olympian vein. But I continue to wish he'd come clean about being gay years ago, as a champion, not a victim.



The Dream Police
 by Dennis Cooper
 (Grove Press, \$16)

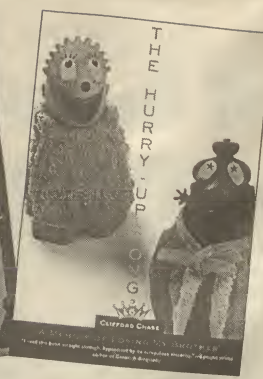
Part of the pleasure of this collection (*Selected Poems, 1969-1993*) is in seeing just how consistent and focused Cooper has been, from the very start of his literary career. Cooper's appeal has always resided in his voice, which mimics the banality of vernacular usage but, by some alchemical process of emphasis and editing, usually sparkles. Detached, deadpan, at times mordant, the voice of these poems fascinates in its cool



appraisal of sordid reality. Drugs, sex-for-pay, rape, murder, dismemberment... all the greatest hits are here, but they co-exist with idolatry, mystery, irony, even humor. "Then I stabbed/ her. It's like/ cutting a pie./ if you must know."

The Hurry-Up Song
 by Clifford Chase
 (HarperSan Francisco, \$20)

In a year notable for memoirs of losing loved ones to AIDS or personal demons (Leroy Aarons' *Prayers for Bobby: A Mother's*



Coming to Terms with the Suicide of Her Gay Son was another), Chase's book, subtitled "A Memoir of Losing My Brother," stood out. With simplicity and honesty he describes growing up gay in suburban dystopia, the special bonds between gay brothers, and healing from devastating loss. "I wanted my brother to be a brave poster-child sort of AIDS patient, cheerful and bright eyed to the end, full of life and inspiration despite all he faced. I imagined him founding a support group called Exceptional AIDS Patients."

Jack the Modernist (reissue)
 by Robert Glück
 (High Risk, \$12.99)

This spiffy reissue from High Risk/Serpent's Tale of San Francisco author Robert Glück's first novel, originally published in 1985, proves that gay postmodernism can withstand the test of time. By turns witty, heartfelt and obsessive, *J the M* is a catalog of invention and ways out of the narrative box. "Writing channels the world into words once it's understood how piecemeal we are, like gossip, bits and pieces from beyond the grave..." With *Jack's* reappearance and his latest novel *Margery Kempe*, Glück has had a banner year.

Lytton Strachey
 by Michael Holroyd
 (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, \$17 paper)

Holroyd's biography of Bloomsbury insider and flamboyant homosexual Strachey was first published in 1967, but this extensively revised edition, combining two volumes in one, arrived with perfect timing. The tie-in to the movie *Carrington* explains the book's simultaneous appearance in hard- and soft-cover. Strachey himself is said to have invented the modern biography with his *Eminent Victorians* (the title was meant ironically), so it's fitting that he is the subject of this monumental bio.

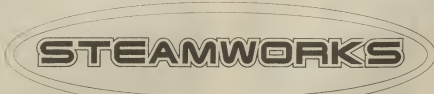
Playing With the Edge
 by Arthur C. Danto
 (University of California Press, \$24.95)

In three lucid essays, art critic Arthur C. Danto assesses the artistic achievement of the late Robert Mapplethorpe now that the dust has settled a bit from the Great Cultural War of '89. Danto's strength as a critic is the crystal clarity of his prose, which perfectly suits the honesty of Mapplethorpe's portraits and self-portraits. If, as Danto points out, we can never again experience these photographs with an eye innocent of the upheaval they created, this book is an ideal reappraisal, with its square format, plentiful illustrations, and incisive text.

Rat Bohemia
 by Sarah Schulman
 (Dutton, \$19.95)

I think it's Schulman's best novel yet, told through the voices of Rita the rat exterminator, Killer the plant-waterer, and David the

Continued on next page




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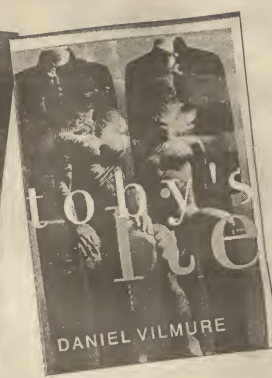
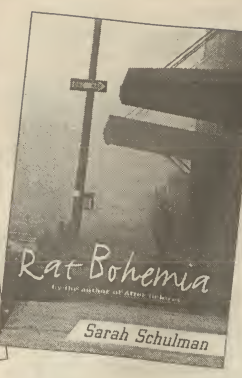
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BOOKS



Yearbooks

Continued from page 36

writer with AIDS. Few of her contemporaries have Schulman's skill at looking at her tragic times squarely in the eye and getting them down on paper. She doesn't flinch at portraying the ways gay people are let down by their families: "There's nothing on earth that could kill us more efficiently than parental indifference." Strong politics, terrific characters, even some slugging of literary figures: a thrilling read.

Skinned Alive
by Edmund White
(Knopf, \$23)

The virus overshadows many of the heroes of *Skinned Alive*, Edmund White's collection of stories, but never overwhelms them. The loss of friends and lovers colors these tales, but White uses the mood to invoke what was important or stimulating in the relationships in the first place. In doing so,

he has given us his most revealing "autofictions" (his term) yet.

This year White also published the American edition of his memoir with lover Hubert Sorin, *Our Paris, Sketches from Memory* (Knopf, \$22). Sorin drew the illustrations, White drops the names, and it's all most amusing. Poignant, too, since Sorin died of you-know-what. White eulogizes him in an introduction written — incredibly — just two hours after his death.

Toby's Lie
by Daniel Vilmure
(Simon and Schuster, \$21)

All Toby Sligh, a senior at Sacred Heart High in Tampa, really wants is to take his boyfriend, Ian Lamb, to the prom. Toby, romantic soul and voice of innocence, is our guide through the shadow world of teenage America in Daniel Vilmure's second novel, *Toby's Lie*. With wit and madcap pacing, Vilmure has crafted an original tale which does not ignore some ugly realities: AIDS, crack

addiction, crippling prejudice and the devastation of our inner cities are all part of its landscape. Vilmure has a unique and powerful vision, and his novel is a significant contribution to the literature of the generation which came of age after the advent of AIDS.

Young Man from the Provinces
by Alan Helms
(Faber and Faber, \$22.95)

Here's the memoir from the golden Boyman of the gay fifties and sixties. Helms tells his tale of metamorphosis from midwestern naïf to sought-after sex object with all of the requisite name-dropping ("Lenny Bernstein has pronounced me 'sortable' (French for 'take-outable'), meaning I can manage small talk in three languages, catch most of the allusions, & won't confuse the forks."). All the annoying amper-sands notwithstanding (the author seems to have an aversion to the word 'and'), the book makes for a wild, indulgent read. ▼

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MUSIC



The Smashing Pumpkins

Top Albums

Continued from page 35

heavy metal combined with hip-hop and techno. There's even an anti-gangsta rap song. I love it.

Skunk Anansie
Paranoid and Sunburnt
(Epic/One Little Indian)

"Straight-white-boy rock critics hate this band," the *Village Voice's* music editor once said. It's easy to see why. Fronted by Skin, a fierce black lesbian with attitude to burn, this intimidating multi-culti London band has more balls than a frat house. Don't miss this potent band live when they return in February for another tour of the States.

The Smashing Pumpkins
Mellon Collie and the Infinite Sadness
(Virgin)

This double album has become the soundtrack for the Art & Pro-

duction Department at the *Bay Area Reporter*. It goes like this: I show up at work and hit play on the auto-reverse cassette deck. Around 3 in the afternoon, I turn to my co-worker Kurt and ask, "Have we listened to this enough today?" His reply: "No!" At two-plus hours in length, it takes a while to burn out on this indulgent "prog-rock-for-the-'90s" masterpiece.

Team Dresch
Personal Best
(Chainsaw/Candy-Ass)

A veritable Northwest dyke-punk supergroup, Team Dresch takes its name from guitarist Donna Dresch, a scene veteran who got fed up with being in everyone else's band. So she did what any other self-respecting D.I.Y. punk would do—she started one herself. Tough and sexy, with musical chops to boot, these grrrls know how to tear it up—an inspiration to young, impressionable dykes everywhere. ▼

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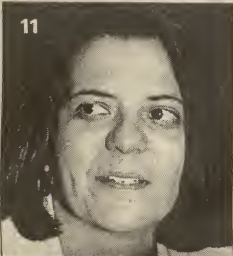
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7. Armistead Maupin, author, because "she's the mother of us all who wrote *Tales of the City*, our epic"; "he has captured what's special about San Francisco for years"; "I still remember his inspiring speech at the closing of the 1986 Gay Games"; "he seems to be a wonderful man who is out."

8. Tribe 8, rock band, because "they're the best dyke band in the city (whenever they're actually in town)"; "they're the only band I ever go see live"; "they're the best."

9. Michael Tilson Thomas, symphony director, because he "has elevated music and the art of directing it to new heights"; "is classy and half out"; "knows how to wave his baton"; "he gives good music and is really cute in the proper lighting"; "has made classical music seem sexy again."

10. Jon Ginoli, band member (Pansy Division), because "he is the pansiest Pansy of them all"; "his band speaks to me and everyone else my age (twinkies or still faking it)"; "I love all the Pansies, but he's the best"; "the Pansy Man can 'cuz he mixes it with love and makes the homos feel good."



11. Sandra Hernandez, director, San Francisco Health Department, because "she fights hard to maintain and increase HIV/AIDS services, as well as other health services, and she's also an out lesbian"; "if she can please Frank Jordan and Willie Brown she must be doing something right"; "she deserves an award bigger than this, but she'd better at least get some recognition, don't you think?"

12. Joan Jett Blakk, girl about town, because s/he "is trying to document what's going on in SF's queer community"; "is an out there African-American queen" "only rarely has her wig been askew"; "will bitch and moan if

she doesn't get on this list"; "is the Harold Stassen of the radical drag movement."



13. Marc Huestis, filmmaker and entrepreneur, because "of 20 years of filmmaking about our community and never shutting up"; "he thought up the *Poseidon Adventure* thing"; "he wants so badly to belong - please include him!"; "he wants so badly to be on the list - can't you at least make him No. 50B?"

14. David Bonetti, art critic, because he "wears fabulous neckwear and is obsessed with Heather Locklear"; "is not afraid to work for a major daily and be a fag at the same time"; "is fabulous - and I'm not just saying this because she has a gun at my head."

15. Carole Migden, Supervisor, because she "is among the most professional of our politicians"; "has great got hair"; "pissed off Paul Melbostad"; "knows how to twist arms behind closed doors"; "knew who the voters were going to elect as mayor all along."

16. Jonathan Katz, educator and activist, because he "supports all sorts of queer education, from the academic to the social"; "because he's an angry, young (well, youngish) man with a brain"; "tries hard to advance gay studies."

17. Richard Labonte, book-seller, because "of all the literary exposure he gives writers"; "he made *A Different Light* into a community center."

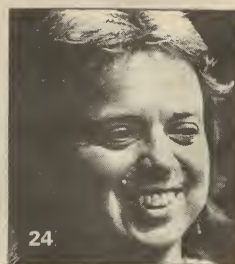
18 & 19. Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon, because "they have been through the bad times and the good"; "they got sexual orientation into the White House Conference on Aging report"; "of who they are."

20. Michael Lumpkin, SF lesbian/gay film fest director, because he "put Frameline on the map"; "is bringing sanity back to Frameline and coproduced *The Celluloid Closet*"; "is Frameline and always will be."

21. Marcus Hu, film producer and enfant terrible, because "he's so amusingly full of shit"; "I liked *Frisk* even if everyone else didn't"; "he brings us good movies from all over the world (along with occasional doggy-doo flicks)"; "pisses off all the community pantywaists"; "knows that great art (and great cultures and communities) cannot be built around the misguided concerns of the ideology police."

22. Keith Hennessey, dancer, performance artist, soothsayer, because "he's responsible for creating the 848 space"; "he's sex positive"; "I don't believe in all that aerie-faerie stuff but a lot of people relate to it"; "he'll still drop his drawers at the drop of a hat."

23. Page Hodel, DJ, because she "is the best in town"; "made everyone move at Gay Day at Great America"; "is the mixtress who won't quit"; "appeals to those only-queer-on-the-dance-floor queers (oops!)"

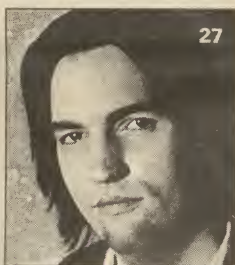


24. Cherrie Moraga, playwright, because she "is willing to confront troubling aspects of the lives of her communities"; "addresses the important issues of our time."

25. Hank Plant, news anchor/reporter, because he "is classy and completely out"; "is a great role model for queer teens"; "is successful and has been with the same guy for years (unless they broke up)."



26. Pussy Tourette, drag performer, because "fame hasn't made her any less of a French bitch"; "she represents the drag wave of the future"; "she may be a French bitch but she's no snitch."



27. Tony Vaguely, theatrical impresario, because "The Sick and Twisted Players are amazing"; "he turned the Sick and Twisted Sisters into a local phenomenon through sheer force of ego."

28. Robert Riley, San Francisco Museum of Modern Art curator, because he "helps set the artistic tastes of the city"; "is an advocate for queer art in this city."



29. Jennifer "Junkyard" Morris, DJ and film-festival programmer, because she "is a great DJ and wears her piercings well"; "knows how to whip a dance floor into a fury"; "runs three lesbian nightspots and does programming for *1/g* film festival - damn!"; "is a lesbian avenger."

30. Susan Leal, Supervisor, because she "works hard for all San Franciscans"; "does more than she

Continued on next page

Out There 50

Continued from page 38

gets credit for"; "is quietly effective - too bad all of the stupes aren't."

31. Leslie Katz, SF Community College Board member, because she "is one of those rare politicians who knows how to listen"; "is a younger version of Carole Migden but more pleasant."

32. Mike Shriver, AIDS activist, because he "does more for PWAs than anyone I know"; "is a wizard at HIV/AIDS policy"; "he's on the San Francisco Health Commission as an openly gay, openly HIV-positive man."

33. Steve Low, director, Living Well Project, because he "was tapped by President Clinton to serve on his AIDS Advisory Council"; "is an important member of the API community."

34. Mark Sargent, composer, because "he writes original songs for drag queens who can't sing"; "most of his shows are great except for this latest one, but it isn't his fault."

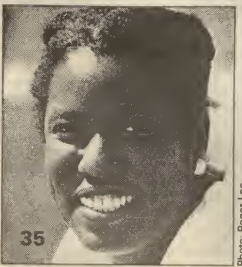


Photo: Roger Lee

35. April Sinclair, author, because she "is one of local writing's sweetest success stories"; "her first novel was beautiful."

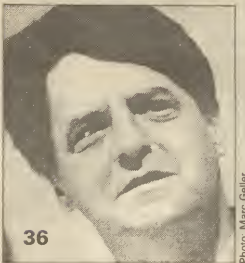


Photo: Marc Geller

36. Kevin Killian, author, because he "is an important figure in the SF queer lit scene"; "is mordantly funny"; "has the freakiest sense of humor of any gay writer in town."



37. Desi del Valle, actor, because she "is the most prolific local Latina dyke performer next to Marga Gomez"; "is in every lesbian movie and she looks so fine."

38. Traci des Jardins, head chef, Rubicon, because she "is a famous lesbian chef"; "has elevated eating and cooking to new heights while being openly gay"; "is the most visible lesbian chef in the city now that Elka [Gilmore] is gone."

39. Edward Guthmann, film critic, because "his reviews have gotten better over time and he is our voice at the *Chronicle*"; "he is not nearly as stylish as David Bonetti but important anyway"; "is a better critic than Mick LaSalle, for what that's worth."

40. Julie Dorf, director, International Lesbian and Gay Human Rights Commission, because "there's a whole world out there, y'know, and she insists we know about it"; "she is looking out for people not lucky enough to live here."

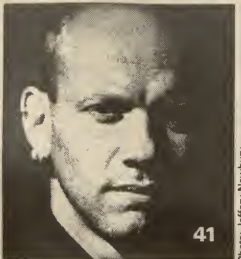


Photo: Jeffery Newbury

41. Rex Ray, graphic designer, because he "is even sexier than Chris Isaak"; "is a stylist supreme"; "is good and he's

cheaper if he likes you"; "has great tattoos, unless I'm confusing him with someone else."

42. Matt Wobensmith, Outpunk record label owner and 'zine publisher, because "when Rolling Stone and MTV are doing trend pieces on Queer Punk, he's the first person they call"; "a scene is being created out of things he helped start."

43. Gwen Craig, politico, "has served our community for decades"; "she's shrewd and makes sure we don't get screwed."

44. Deborah Hoffman, filmmaker, because she "has been making important films or editing them for years"; "deserved an Academy Award for *Complaints of a Dutiful Daughter*."

45. Jenni Olson, film archivist and butch icon, because she "tirelessly promotes dyke/fag visibility in the entertainment biz"; "her butches-in-the-movies show was great."

46. Lawrence Wong, SF Community College Board member, because "he's the first openly gay Asian/Pacific Islander male elected official."

47. Susie Bright, sexpert, because "she will always be our favorite sexual intellectual"; "she still sleeps with women, doesn't she?"

48. Steven White, music librarian, San Francisco Opera, because he "knows all and sees all"; "is an artist, composer, and writer who knows opera inside and out and is highly influential."

49. Beth Corwin, artist and distributor, because she "created the *Lesbians Kissing Calendar* and more"; "she captures lesbian romance"; "has made some great lesbian commercial images."

In an Unprecedented Tie for Number 50 (how's that for a copout?)

Peter Adair, Jake Andrews, Don Baird, Thom Bean, Nayland Blake, Kenya Briggs, Tracey Broadman, Nao Bustamante, Pat Califia, Scott Capurro, Portia and Sophie Capplethwaite, Chris Carnes, Ann Mei Chang, Deborah Chasnoff, Justin Chin, Jack Collins, Jack Davis, Deena Davenport, Roberto Esteves, Michael Flanagan, Trauma Flinstone, Jeffrey Fraenkel ("the openings at his

gallery are better than cruising the Café Flore"), Brian Freeman, Angie Fa, Jim Gabbert, Arturo Galster, Gary Garrels, Dennis Harvey, Glen Helfand, Lawrence Helman, Elvis Herselvis, Tim Hyland, Laurie Irving ("Tom Ammi-ano wouldn't get anything done without her"), Matthew Kennedy, Susan Kennedy ("she's still the hardest working person in gay sports"), Karl Knapper, Hoover Lee, Daniel Mangin ("because you'll throw this ballot out if I don't vote for him") Tom Marzella ("of 21 Bernice, for opening his theatre to the most wretched queens in town"), Paul Melbostad ("because hell will freeze over before he supports Carole Migden"), Arwyn Moore, Dan Nicoletta, Scott O'Hara ("he can blow himself and publish a magazine at the same time"), Lester Olmstead-Rose, George Ong, Miss Betty Pearl ("she knows a big fat messy pass-around party bottom when she sees one"), Harriet Poon, Tom Rielly, Jallen Rix, Martin Spector, Brian Thorntenson, Art Tomaszewski, Naomi Torres ("she runs Alcatraz and greets all those tourists with that great dyke smile"), Allan Ulrich ("because he's erudite and usually right"), Karen Wickre, Merle Woo, Zeon ("hair stylist to Silicon Valley fags"). ▼



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PARTING
GLANCES

Union 76

You: black mustang. Me: Black Saab. You offered to wash my windshield. I joked about paying you a dollar and sped to join the rat race; but no matter how busy I am, I keep thinking of you. You call me please. **7802.**

Market & 17th
Tues 11/28, 9pm

You: Tall, handsome walking with smaller gay haired man toward Castro St. Me: 8'ald, glasses, black leather jacket. You gave me the eye. We've played (anonymously). Let's do it again. **7804.**

Firefly Restaurant, Sunday,
12/10, 9pm, Raining

You were waiting for the bathroom. I was sitting close to the window with a friend. Then, you went back to your table, with a girl. Were you looking at me? I'm Asian in grey sweater, with glasses. You're WM, medium-long wavy hair, carrying a helmet. I would like to meet you so I can officially introduce myself. **7903.**

Cute Asian Male 11/28

You cute guy with laundry basket in tan Polo jacket crossing 17th street at Clayton. Me: GWM in green Volvo around 10pm. Would like to meet you. Please give me a call. **7803.**

Roberto: Midnight Sun

We met near the door on Saturday night, Dec. 2. You thought I might be Italian. Would love to talk to you again. Hope you call. My name is Mark. **7805.**

Grey Mercedes Benz

Tuesday night 12/5. You got into your car in front of Walgreens. I was crossing Castro St. w/ my motorcycle helmet in hand. We kept looking. We both have mustaches. How about lunch? **7834.**

CMJ Pool

You: Stache, hot. Me: Hot, very good-looking, young, admirer. Give a call. **7805.**

1808 Club,
Saturday, 12/2, 12pm.

You have dark brown hair with a ponytail, tan body. I have brown hair, mustache, glasses (I took them off), hairy chest. And I told you, "you are the sexiest man!" I would love to get together again! **7839.**

Atypical Ronil
Baker's Beach

We had a great day talking at the beach. I am looking to know more about you. We exchanged numbers, but I misplaced yours! Hope you read this and call... T. **7840.**

18 & Castro

Divisadero #24 Bus Stop Thursday, Dec. 7, 9:30am. We talked briefly. I mentioned RSP. My bus came and I had to go. Me: elderly gent, gray hair, mustache. You: much younger and charming. So sorry I had to leave. We waved. Please call. **7902.**

Windmills

We met Sat Dec 2, 11:00am in Golden Gate Park. You from San Jose. Me from San Francisco. Crowds to much for you, would like to finish. **7904.**

Joe - Black House - 12/2/85

I still owe you for breakfast at Orphan Andy's. You're cute and sexy too (duh). Call me so we can talk! I'd like to see you again. (Nothing serious). **7905.**

Daddy's Friday Night 12/8

Bill: You used to live at St. Francis Place, we used to pass each other very early on the way to work. I didn't recognize you with the beard. Call me. Let's talk. **7938.**

Berkeley BART

Fate or coincidence? Who knows, but I love talk to you. You're the gorgeous man with dark hair, baseball hat, goatee. Two encounters in one night has me a little curious. **8001.**

Jim/Detour 12/8/85

We met briefly Saturday night. I would really like to get to know you better. How about dinner some time? Jonathan. **7901.**

14 Dec Mkt & Kearny 1pm

You: gorgeous, gray hair sunglasses heading west on Mkt. Me: Brn hair, goatee heading east on Mkt w/ Macy's bag. Care to meet for coffee or tea? **8002.**

Carl Deliriously Searching
For Norman, Club Asia 12/1

Your skinned gaze stunned me into hypnotized silence. You vanished like a spirit leaving a tantalizing perfume behind before I could stutteringly speak. My blue-eyed body has not stopped vibrating since. Call me with the kiss of your voice. **7801.**

Mike Detour, Sat. 12/2

Had brief encounter. I am Mike also, would like to make it more than that. Please call. **8003.**

"Wet When Wet"

Jesus, you drive me nuts in that red speedo. When I saw you in the Koret showers and you took off your suit before swimming, I engaged. Let's stop staring and "get it on." (That's me being retro, too!) **8004.**

Asian Muscle Sister

Market street, usually late afternoons. Your apron, 5'5", late 30's, smooth, beautiful body & bubble butt. Me: GWM, 5'9", 170#, balding brown, baby blue eyes, goatee. We connected once before, years ago, and it was great! Forgot your name, socially shy but otherwise very aggressive. Would love to climb on top and show you intense passion. **8005.**

Sunday Dec 17, 12:15 MUM

You had on black sweater and a beautiful smile. Me: blue/gray sweatshirt. Got off at Powell. Regret not talking to you. Can I have a sec-ond chance? **8034.**

Santa Rosa

Friedman Bros, Friday 12/15. You tall cowboy w/ beard. Me: Older of couple. We stared. Let's meet. **8035.**

Ken Chicago IRL '95

I got your card in June but you didn't say how to reach you. I will be in SF in early Jan, and would love to get together. Dee from Madison. **8035.**

Sean/Shawn

Diamond St., Sunday, 12/17, 2:00am. Enjoyed meeting you & the conversation in my car. Find you very attractive. Didn't exchange numbers - my mistake? Can we meet again - dinner or whatever suits you? **8043.**

SEEKING
RELATIONSHIP
M-M

Asian Boy-Man

Gd/blk, cute, active, hip, fit, 5'8", 140#. 20something, short hair, body piercing, easily amused. Appreciates honesty, creativity, kitsch, leisure time & beauty. Has too many interests to list. You're 20/30something, exciting, clever, confident & certainly do-able. My taste in men is like my taste in art: universal & eclectic. Call to find out if there is mutual attraction & compatibility. The indolent & joyless need not respond. Talk to you soon! **7770.**

HIV+, GWM Seeks GWM Top

Healthy, HIV+, GWM, 36, 170#, 5'11", seeks GWM top. Tell me how you want me to take it. **7837.**

Seeking HIV+ or HIV- Guys

I'm Latino, 24, 5'7", 170#, dark skinned, university student, mostly a top. Would like to meet Latins or whites 21-35 for friendship maybe more. Prefer someone who is outgoing, extrovert and humorous. **7806.**

Seeking Very Handsome,
Masculine Couple For LTR

Unaffected, affectionate, manly, dark, Italian, very endowed, 32yo, 5'9", 165#, 29" w, optional facial hair seeks other very muscular progressive. Passions: Nature, architecture, Europe, Italy, Music 1890-1940, contemporary art, antiques, gardening, NS, east coast a +. **7807.**

HIV+ LTR: Caring, Support

HIV+ seeks same in SF for mutual love, sex, growth. We Healthy, monogamous, affectionate, enjoys weekend romance, dining, drinking, outings. Let's help each other. We're GWM. Me: Bottom, 100%, 5'10", 209#, 52yo. **7808.**

Let's Get Together

Easy on the eyes. 100% bottom. 38yo, 5'6", looking for LTR with a hung 100% top between ages of 35-45. Must be social, romantic & sensual. Sense of humor a must. ND. **7809.**

South American Latino 28

I'm 5'7", 170#, light skinned, facial hair, attractive, very ethnic. Looking for a relationship. Would like to meet Latins or white, 25-38, HIV+, someone not afraid to be yourself, and serious replies. **7810.**

HIV+ Dad For HIV+ Son

Attractive, 49, Br/Br, 5'11", 170#, healthy, passionate, bottom, social, gentle, intense love of life, professional, fluent Spanish. You: Articulate, educated, in shape, employed, want to be a long term survivor, spiritual, ready to settle down, passionate, any race, no drugs, it drinking OK. **7811.**

New Kid In Town!

GWM, 29, 6'2", 195#, brown hair, blue eyes, HIV-, intelligent, spiritual, classy, creative, into people, politics, ideas, 2-step, Big Country, art films, anything Celtic, 80's, NPR, PBS, CNN, seeks tall, clean-cut, mostly top, GWM 28-38 for friendship, romance or whatever. **7812.**

Hungry Subm. Bottom
Wanted.

Hot man, 58, 135#, good build wants good looking bottom. No pain or sleaze, just hot leather sex, fantasy, kink and possible LTR. **7814.**

Husband Material

GWM, HIV-, smoker, social drinker, top, 5'10", 165#, 48yo and still single. I'm educated, intelligent, articulate and I like simple pleasures. Seek comparable GWM. **7815.**

Ebay, HIV-, Latin Top Wanted

Prefer Capricorn, or Virgo who smokes, HIV+, 33, bl/bl, 6', 180#, handsome widow in Concord area. Needs dark Papacito. **7816.**

Black Or Hispanic Men Alert

Quality GWM in Sacto seeks LTR w/ quality GWM/GHM. I'm 6'3", 175#, br/br, late 30's, HIV- attractive, gym-toned, outgoing, stable, sense of humor. Interests include sports, music, movies. Seeking GWM/GHM, 25-45, athletic, stable, HIV-, NS/ND with similar interests. Willing to try long distance relationship to see what happens. **7817.**

Smooth Muscled Live In
Slave Wanted

WM, master, 40, hairy, masc, musc, 185#, 5'11", clean shaven seeks obedient smooth muscled slave boy for live in position. UB under 30, employed, smooth, toned - or don't bother. **7838.**

All But The Best

The best part of life is the social side, w/o companionship, the rest is meaningless. Normal guy, cute, boyish body, 5'8", 140#, swimmer, br/bl, HIV-, 30ish, (looks younger) great job, educated, like Field over opera. **7838.**

Crazy For You!

Would like to be. I'm 6'3", 33, 200#, br/bl, muscular, workout enthusiast, buzzed hair, pierced ears, sensual, responsive, HIV+, & healthy ISO similar younger, gym body romantic & crazy for me. **7848.**

Let's JO Together

GWM HIV-, 40's, 5'11", 190#, hairy, stocky, and uncut seeks younger smoother in shape GWM or GLM, HIV+ for mutual JO and oral sex. **7849.**

Wanted: Masculine Bottom

Hunky, sport, masculine, Latinized WM, (youthful, attractive, 40's, 5'6", 145#, HIV+ wants sparky, in-shape insightful, affectionate, bottom. Pluses: Bicultural values, out-doesman, spiritual wiring, under 5'9". **7850.**

Down To Earth
Gwm Seeks Same

I'm 29, 6'5", 200#, br/br, HIV-. I enjoy jazz, reading, and working out. Looking for a professional, stable, decent man, HIV- who enjoys just hanging out and low key evenings. **7906.**

Platonic, Slim, Retired Guy

Moustache, crew cut, 5'9", 150#, HIV- seeks similar guy - no sex! Interests: Music, opera, politics, science, etc. Smoke, bars in moderation. **7907.**

Exotic GWM/WM

Looking for cute, young, loyal boy friend. I'm 32, 5'11", 190 all muscle, gd/blk, athletic, masculine HIV+ ND. **7908.**

Seeking blonde
Blue Eyed Guy

8/8 eyed guys trim this normally restrained guy to jello. My ideal man would be 22-30yo, 6', or taller, lean and smooth, and would love to kiss, hug and cuddle. **7909.**

Muscular Lover

This musc, masc, 28yo attractive 8M is looking for a honest, caring, athletic, professional GM that is also into working out, getting big, outdoors and hot sex. Looking for a possible relationship so please be serious, musc, under 33yo. **7910.**

38, Blond, Smooth, Fit,
Romantic.

29 waist, good looks, seeks romantic, fit, out going, fun, guy who loves to make out, and wants to build on something deeper. HIV-, live in Oakland and love it! **7911.**

Handsome Smooth
Skinned Asian

Guy, friendly, athletic is interested in receiving firm, full-body oil massages on a regular basis. I enjoy very long massages. Also enjoy being tied up and light S & M. **7912.**

River Phoenix Incarnation

Seeks generous gentleman for transfer of energy, love messages, excitement unlimited! A brave, happy sun sets. **7913.**

Bear Seeks Muscle

GWM, 44, 235#, hairy, rugged bear, lone wolf type with a soft spiritual interior, seeks beefy muscular guy 5'8"-6'2", intelligent, high-spirited with depth and a good heart, HIV-. **7914.**

Effeminate SF GWM Top

Sought by 100%, bottom, GWM, daddy type for girlish guys 25-44. LTR very possible. Like weekend smoke, drink, dining. I want to suck and get fucked. Me: Early 50's, 6', 210#. **7915.**

ISO Boy Perfect Wanting
Financial Support

In return for loyal companionship to 40, handsome, muscular man coming into obscene amount of money! You are 25 or younger, Int'l Male, Colt, Calvin Klein, Souleff type, top. This is for real! Budding 88 too! **7916.**

Wolf On A Fox hunt! Where's
The Cute Boy Next Door?

When you need him? Me: 38, 6'0", 205#, br/hz, solid, stocky, goatee, man, hairy prof, educ, masc top, ISO all-Amer. boy! UR 22-37, wht/his/eurasian, employed, educ, fox(gym boys, jocks, dancers), HIV+, healthy! NS, ND Like blk tie 2 leather! Your cock size is unimportant! Gr8 ass a must! I'm a bear at the Sun, not at the Lone Star! **7917.**

Where Are You?

Very cute, athletic, 28, 6', ND/HIV-, seeks similar 28-35 for LTR. **7818.**

Last Chance Cate GWM
42yo HIV-

Real secure, always honest, 5'4", 168#, br/bl, low maint. Seeks non-agenda dates from conversation to LTR. SF magic is real. Smoke & drug free, any race, simple qualities, 30-45 best ages. **7918.**

Virgin

First time placing an Ad. Hot, young, muscular, GWM, 33, looking for Mr. Right but will settle for Mr. Right Away. Not expecting a miracle but hoping for playmate. No freaks, please. **7919.**

I Grew Up

30, 6', 168#, br/bl, ND, NS, not experienced in gay sex, HIV-, lean, fit, nice, like sports, travel, arts, new age, moves looking for 25-30yo man with same qualities for friendship, possible LTR. **7939.**

HIV+, Athlete's Social For
Singles

Wanna meet hot, healthy, HIV+, gym boys that are single? We do exist! If you wish to meet, date, romance, or just play without fear, call to find out about this social. **7944.**

Physically Fit Asian

48, 5'9", 150#, seeks similar clean-shaven, smooth, gym-toned WM for adventurous companion into hiking, sports, workouts, ethnic foods, arts, travel, and sensual pleasures. **7940.**

Best Foot Forward

GWM hoping to meet life partner. Self-awareness, compassion, and good communication essential. Terrific looks nice but not necessary. Me: 5'9", 40, 165#, attractive, good shape. Foot play a must. **8037.**

Miscegenation

Japanese born, young 30's, 5'7", 135#, handsome, long hair, beard, UC, sensitive, intelligent strong character, seeks similar act, bear type 25-45, no hard drugs. **8042.**

Sacramento
Daddy Seeks Daddy

Tall, trim 200#, masculine, bottom, Italian/handsome, young, 40's. WLM rugged handsome top for play or relationship. I'm prof, HIV-, horny, bright, desirable, big heart/soul, dependable. **8044.**

European And Asian Men

Can be very disarming with their very smile and duct vernacular. Let me turn the table and this Yankee might enchant you. Yankee is tall, hairy, 43, expressive, romantic and affectionate. **8045.**

Need A New Boyfriend?

WM, 52(looks 30's), 5'11", 165#, clean shaven, NS, ND, HIV-, looking for AM 25-35, short, slim, for long term monogamous relationship. Like 60's-80's music, theater, dining, travel, scuba, photography, movies, dancing, cats. Affectionate, loyal, marriage minded. Outstanding opportunity for the right person. **8046.**

Seeking A Top

Gay Latino Male, 25yo, 5'10", bottom 150#, HIV+, healthy seeks a male who's a top HIV+, bwn 25 and 40, and who also lives in San Francisco. **8047.**

SEEKING
ADVENTURE
M-MYoung Cum Eating
Suck Ass Wanted

By 33yo, GWM, mean, hung, in shape, good looking, cock feeder. You have to be 18-30yo, cute, boyish looking submissive, always hungry. I'll slap you, piss on you, pull your hair and you swallow my cum over & over. Any race. Eat it boy! **8019.**

Muscle Bondage

Musc, jock, 8/8, 28, 6', 198#, 30w, 50c, 18a, seeking tough young muscle jocks to submit to intense, prolonged, inescapable bondage. Are you man enough? **7820.**

Super Hot,
Butch & Nasty Stud

Sks same to rim, suck, kiss, ride hard cock. I'm 40, 5'9", 140#, bl, flatfoot, hdl bar stash, HIV-, police tattoos, wear uniforms. **7840.**

Just Shut Up And Ride

Fucking Animal needed now. Bucking, blue eyed stud, 30, WM, 5'10", 200#, clean-cut, muscle hunk wants very masculine and gd/blk men to top me. **7763.**

Lunchtime Rim Jobs

At financial district locale of your choice. Attractive, GWM, 32, 6'2", 185#, br/br, moustache, seeks to service butt at the noon hour. You: clean and good-looking. **7821.**

Sex In Ebay

Handsome BM, 44, 6', 189#, very muscular, trim and fit, with close cut hair and clean shaven. I'm in a relationship but sex is essentially lacking. Looking for a sex partner my age or younger for friendship sex. I'm HIV+, prefer same. **7823.**

Asian JO Buddy

Attractive GAM, 33, 5'9", 170#, muscular and clean-cut seeks hunky guys into sex play, touching, tit play and safe fun. **7846.**

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☐ Seeking Relationship W-W ☐ Seeking Adventure W-W ☐ Fetishes ☐ Couples ☐ Other

Name _____ Day Phone No. _____ Eve. Phone No. _____

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City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

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Write the rest of the ad here: _____

_____ (stop here)

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BAR TALK

Jockstrap wrestling

Muscular, handsome man seeks others turned on by erotic wrestling. Open to all fantasies and skill levels. No heavy rough housing - just good, clean, sweaty fun. Go ahead and call, you won't be disappointed. **7824.**

HIV Positive

Meet others who want to accept and transform themselves, believe that long term survival is possible. Emphasis on becoming a team, social activities, building a team, a process of change, a common sense of direction, fulfilling our destinies, helping others with HIV to do the same, and humanist spirit. Groups are now forming on 3 continents. Meet others, learn, experience and chart an open future. **7825.**

Deep Throat Therapy For Horse Cocks

Mature, tanned husky, GWM seeks men hung unusually long and thick. I can deep throat 10x7 to the balls. Have met only a couple of guys that were too big, so they fucked me. If satisfaction is what you need, call me. No age or race restrictions. **7822.**

Tall, Dark, Handsome & Hot 6'2", 190#, muscular, 40, top notch w/ big dick looking for honest, similar versatile for mutual oral, hell to man connecting, hell rising. **7827.**

Mexican Sons Wanted

Hot, young Mexican sons wanted to service military dad. **7920.**

Just Shut-up & Ride

Fuckin' animal needed now. Blond hair, blue eyed stud, 30, WM, 5'10", 200#, clean-cut muscle hunk wants very masculine and good-looking men to top me. Call. **7826.**

All 8' Of My Sweet Manhood Are

"Out on the island" and in need of a masculine man with a deep throat or receptive rear to satisfy me. Please be sincere, available and easy to reach by phone. I'm no young beauty but I'm a hot, sexy, tasty treat. **7828.**

Cock Sucker

Hungry for dick. If you are masculine, stocky and can give verbal abuse and instruction I'll be on my knees. I'm very masculine, good looking, WM. One time or regular service. **7829.**

Veins, Veins, Veins

I really turn to guys with very very physiques, whether they're just thin, defined hard body or muscle guys. Veiny biceps, veiny arms, veiny abdominal, veiny legs, veiny dicks. I'm sexually versatile and muscular. No drugs. **7831.**

Adventurous?

I walk in your house and find you sleeping on your bed naked with your butt up. I grease you up and fuck you real good right to the last drop. You are 18-35, weight appropriate to height, HIV+. **7844.**

Married Seeks Bottoms

WM 38yo, muscular, dark hair, green eyes seeks attractive lean Latin, black or white masc bottoms for occasional (maybe regular) fuck sessions. Must be discreet! **7845.**

Spanking Fantasies

Take charge DAD will work your butt over real good w/ hand, belt, paddle, limits respected. Me: Attract, GWM, 45, 6'5", 250#, football players build. You: Attract, GWM, 18-35, slim, smooth to moderate body hair, nice buns. **7847.**

Thin Muscle Fuck Guys

My most intense and wanted sex fantasy involves thin, sinewy, muscle dick/fuck/flex/tit play. I want to explore sexual limits with thin hard body guys, tops and bottoms welcomed. You must enjoy fucking. Defined biceps, very arms, and/or defined abs major turn ons. **7830.**

Discreet J/O Buddies

29yo, HIV-, Caribbean male, 5'11", 164#, fashion mag, video model(model looks) seeks handsome, HIV-, straight acting & appearing as I am. Latins, Puerto Ricans & Bkls 18-35 for hot JO scenes. **7921.**

One Night Only

Will have a hotel room at Oakland Airport on 12/21/95. Looking to meet very masculine, muscular top under 30yrs for a night of fun. I'm 28yo, 5'9", 150#, brn/grn. **7922.**

Hefty, Big Men

GBM, 42, 5'11", 230#, attractive, hung, searching for large, big fat and hefty men for romantic, sexual encounters. **7923.**

Slave Driver Wants White Slave

I'm a cute, youthful, gay, black slave driver looking for a white male slave to lick my royal body, come when I call, take me on little shopping sprees, and take me out when I want to go. Sincere white slave only! **7924.**

Romantic Aggressive Top

ISO horny submissive bottom 18-30yo. Me: Attract, 5'10", 178#, love hard hot sex w/ verbal bottom who needs it now. **7925.**

Sexy Young Butt

Cum, sit on my face, think of how I can pleasure you next. No recip necessary. I'm good and glding. Bring a buddy? Use me for your pleasure. BI, straight welcome. **7926.**

Sex Party

Steamy safe sex parties monthly for hot, cute, in-shape guys 18-30. Men of all races welcome. Call for screening, and come play with the best looking guys in town. **7927.**

This Bottoms For You

GWM, 36, 5'7", 140#. Looking for in shape top to fuck and spank my bubble butt. **7941.**

Balding Or Thinning Hair?

I'm a 40yo HIV+, GWM, 6'2", 190#, clean shaven short brown hair, green eyes which seeks a LTR with a 40-55, HIV+, professional GWM/GJM. I prefer balding or thinning hair men with moustache, extremely hairy chest and legs, big noses and large feet. No gym bunnies please. If this interest you, please call me. **8006.**

Tall, Thin Goth Guy Wants Date.

Know who Stussie is? 22, 6'1", green, black & cherry hair, pale & thin. Don't really fit Castro scene, obviously. Wants to meet another stable man who does not limit himself to a "look". Don't be around my age. Cheap date, movies, walks - too. Romantic for just one night. **8007.**

Latin Lover Wanted

Searching for a glding Latin top male who is healthy, HIV+, in-shape, fun, easy-going, sincere and honest. I am a glding boyish blond, blue eyes, 5'9", 160#, healthy, HIV+, fair/smooth skin, avid bottom with a great smile. Call me, lets make a date. **8008.**

Seeks LTR SF GWM Top

For this 100% GWM bottom. We like romance, sex, outings, dinner, drinks weekends. We are healthy, responsible, caring, affectionate. Really want a monogamous man. Let's talk. **8009.**

Daytime Head

Get sucked dry by tall, handsome dude. One time or regular basis. Morning or aft. You: Under 30, in shape. Cut dicks only! **8015.**

Chubby Chaser Wanted

35, GWM, seeks affectionate aggressive top. I enjoy Fr A/Pm Gr p and prefer hairy, beefy men 30+ yrs. **8016.**

Black Fuck Buddy Wanted

Ebay, GWM, 6', 155#, HIV-. Wants to service your big cock and ass in all ways. **8017.**

A1 Oral Service Delivered

SF, GWM, HIV-, 6', handsome, delivers complete sucked off. Prefer trim, mature, no reciprocation. **8018.**

Young? Asian?

Do you like to be adored? This tall, fit, GWM is healthy, discreet, Fr/A, and ready to provide slow, complete oral service all for you alone or with your buddies. **8019.**

Tops/Versatiles Wanted

Me: Attractive, masc, WM, 34, 5'8", 165#, br/br, moustache. I'm versatile & adventurous. Wants to FF. I love to fuck. Be into ass play. Smooth boy types +. **8020.**

Seeking Masculine Bottoms

WM, 5'6", great shape, dark features, looking for attractive, masc. in shape black, Latin or white bottoms. I am in a relationship but need more sex. HIV+ but healthy. Must be discreet! **8038.**

Sonoma County

Discreet, 35yo, GWM, bottom, ISO muscular, hairy, tall, topman for regular encounters at my place. Discretion guaranteed. **8038.**

18-20 BI Curious?

Are you 18-20 caucasian male? Horny for a M-M experience in private? Buffed, jocks, students, skaters a plus! 100% discreet. Porn videos & massage, 1st time ok. Call Ricky in SF near BART. **8040.**

Eager Mouth

Available for uncult big hung man. I'm WM, 43, muscular, hairy, hung, and hungry for a big foreskin covered cock. I'm in Sonoma Co. but will travel for what I want. **8048.**

37 Corbet

Tired of waiting for the 37 at Market & Castro, GWM will provide oral service to makes who are HIV- & drug free. Just kick back after a long day or your workout at the gym. Please be under 45. No reciprocation necessary. Call - You can always catch the next bus. **8049.**

Hot Sex Costumes

Hung, GWM, 26, sxs. creative, visually oriented, horny guys who'll wear kinky athletic gear, leather, other trashy outfits while posing, strutting, fantasizing. I have boots, belts, briefs, hats, ripped jeans, tight, shiny, basket-binding spandex pants. **7933.**

Tall Smartly Dressed 40yo GW Businessman

Eager to give or take humiliating, messy experiences using food & other sloppy substances (not scat) eggs, cream pies, paint & spankings particularly interesting but open to other scenes. **7934.**

J/O In Your Jeans

Into feeling up a guy's basket in his jeans (wearing briefs or boxers?) into rubbing your basket against a guy's basket in jeans and shooting in your jeans? I'm a healthy, masculine, GWM, 35, 5'9", 145#, dk hair, 'stache. Seeking similar type guy (age & body size). **7936.**

GBM, 40, 5', Top, HIV-

Ebay, seeks nasty ass boys who likes it wild and raunchy. I'm a freak for raunchy underwear and the ass that comes along w/ it. If your tall, slim or pretty closeted scat bottom w/ big balls, have I got an ass fucking for you, 18-35. Latino, BM, A+, be discreet. **7937.**

Like Your Butt Sucked

Very hot ass eater seeks very verbal hairy assed facesitters into butt feeding on my rimseat. I'm glding, 38, 6'2", 165#, wasp, buzzcut with big toilet seat stache. Your Facial hair, 30+, hot pig top heavy into rim jobs. Clean or not. Tops only. **8028.**

Relax

WM cut with big clean feet give yourself a xmas present. Get naked, let a sizzling 50's tongue work your feet and make you feel good. **8030.**

Rubber Man/Kink

Hot, very hung, 32yo, GWM, 6'3", 180#, toned, ISO GWM into rubber, leather, plastic, hoods. UB ave looking, sexy, sane, in shape. I love oral sex wearing erotic gear. You? Call. **8029.**

Smokers Only

Smoking cigarettes or cigars before sex turns me on. If you like the same thing and are reasonable good looking, white or hispanic, give me a call. I'm a GWM, 6', hairy chest, nice looking. **8031.**

Handsome Blond Scatt Top Exhibitionist

Seeks well-built, good looking guy aged 18-32 willing to be a scat bottom in front of one or more people. If you're hungry, you'll definitely want me to feed you. **8032.**

Foot

Footgear Slave

Young looking 48yo, HIV-. Hairy sincere feet lover seeks men with hot feet. I want to crawl, lick, kiss & worship your feet & be your hairy foot-stool. Ebay masters preferred. **8050.**

FFB/Vers

ISO experienced topman or versatile for long, sweaty sessions to elbow. My ultimate goal is to ride over and elbow and also be able to get double fisted HIV-, very handsome 45. **8051.**

OTHER

Exhibitionist Seeks Others

Bi WM, 30's seeks bi, gay, or straight females who would enjoy watching my private strip tease, JO show at my place, and if you're up for it, I might even use my butt plugs. **7833.**

Couple Seeking Extras

Hot versatile GWM couple 46/32 seeking 3rd, 4th, 5th, group. Especially seeking similar couple of tops to service us simultaneously. **8033.**

A Few Good Men

Do you like "do in it" in the day light? Me too. I'm 50yo, tall, healthy, HIV+, and into most things safe. You be similar and horny. **8041.**

Bar Talk

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Due to the substantial increase in subscribers to BarTalk, we must now limit one ad per customer per week.

Photo: Steve Underhill

Over 55?
If you are over 55 and like to suck dick, I'm looking for you. I'm 48, GWM, nice cut dick, and very appreciative of good head. I'm HIV- Please leave phone #. **7928.**

Double Adventure

In shape, to versatile, 5'11", hung big, needs other men (20's-30's), well built, hairy body, with a big firm hairy bubble butt to eat and fuck me. **7929.**

Like It Hot, Sweaty

Passionate, fun, intense, imaginative and a little bit kinky. Good looking bottom guy, 38, 5'8", 145#, looking for handsome top. **7930.**

RU, Avg., Hung, But Gr8 Ass?

Bear on a fox hunt! I'm 38, GWM, 6'0", 205#, br/hz, goatee, mod. hairy (chest & legs), tanned, solid, stocky, masc., handsome top. 7 1/2 cut. UR 22-36, wht/Lat, gym body, all-Amer. boy with gr8 ass, HIV+, healthy, ND, NS, pretty 2 handsome with strong sex drive! Most like black tie 2 leather. Tan lines & long hair a plus, a gr8 ass a must! **7931.**

Want To Play

Handsome top, 39, well built & hung, 8 1/2 seeks guy's 21-45 for sex play. If you like to please, are hot and want to have a good time, call. **7942.**

Blond Top Seeks Willing Bottoms

For sex fun. I am handsome hung and like to use my wand. You should be very willing to please in French and Greek and be available in the morning. **7943.**

Wanted: Asian Or Latin Men
Very good looking GWM, 38, and HIV+, seeks other good looking (be for real), Asian or Latin, men who are HIV+, for friendship and more. I have short dark hair with moustache, blue eyes, and a smooth body. Good looking men between 28-40 only. **8010.**

GBM Needs GWM

Hot & handsome blk man, 30's, 5'11", masculine, good shape, facial hair, versatile. You should be the same for a great time. Leather types a plus. **8011.**

Just Moved From The Midwest

GAM, early 30's, 5'11", 175# intelligent, grounded, stable, NS, not a gym bunny, but work out. Enjoy clubbing, shopping, antiques, social events, dining out. Looking for a life partner, GWM, 30's-40's, 5' or taller, muscular, optional moustache. If you're interested leave a message. **8012.**

Fucking Animal Needed Now!

Blond hair, blue eyed stud, 30, 5'10", 200#, clean-cut, muscle hunk wants masculine/good looking top to top me. Call anytime. **8013.**

Hot Ass GAM

33, 5'8", 150# sxs top man for fun or more. **8021.**

Utah Good Looking Seeks Pen Pals

GWM, 32, 5'10", 165#, br/br, works out, healthy, HIV+, travels to SF often. Enjoys outdoors, horse racing, movies, good conversation. Want to meet 24-34, slender, GWM, in shape. Let's meet. Looking for friends! **8014.**

You Bad Boy!

You fucked up! You broke your resolution! Get the spanking you deserve from an expert. Safe. Call now! **8022.**

Hot Latin Wants Hot Man

Me 5'11", 178#, 7", cut, dk masc features, muscular body, HIV+. You like me or bigger. Ready to have me lick those big man balls & suck that fat dick, then flip over for you to fuck my Latin asshole. **8023.**

Attention Hot Bottoms...

I want a man who is a total bottom, may be uncult and have a hot hairy ass for long hard poundings. Body and facial hair, a plus. I can offer you 8 1/2 hot inches, thick and hard and waiting for you. HIV+ ok. **8024.**

Bodybuilder Wanted

Big body builder wanted. The bigger the better. Top or bottom, cock size not important. I love big muscle & mutual butt pounding. Will make you squirm with my 8" hose. A wild ride you won't forget. **8025.**

Lay Back Enjoy

Close your eyes and let me caress your entire body with my tongue, lips and fingers. Let me make your body spasm with excitement. Must be drug free and HIV-. Prefer smooth body with dark hair but call even if that's not you. Call today. **8026.**

Sacramento

Bearded, in shape, GWM, loves to plow guys with firm, hairy buns. Dicks over 8", face/body hair and muscles get me hard and horny. Day time is best. **8027.**

FETISHES

Muscle Worship

WM, late, 40's, seeks muscular guys of any size into flexing and being admired. Let my hands and tongue worship your body as you showoff biceps, pecs and legs. **7832.**

Nice Guy Loves Barefeet

I have enjoyed lifelong excitement looking at and fantasizing about men's barefeet. I'm very aroused sexually and sexually by kissing, licking, smelling, and caressing barefeet in reciprocal action. JO. Glding Ebay, GWM, 5'8", 140#, tan, bearded, HIV-, NA, ND. **7841.**

Aroused By A Man's Shaved Head Or Body?

Intrigued by the ideal of shaving a guy or submitting to it yourself? This good looking GWM, early 30's into shaving, being naked, tit play, butt play, JO, kissing, oral, spanking, bondage, domination. Looking for about the same. **7842.**

Golden Gallons

Very thirsty piss drinker wanted to handle gusher from big hose. Experienced, mature only. **7843.**

Hot Sex costumes

Hung, GWM, 26, sxs. creative, visually oriented, horny guys who'll wear kinky athletic gear, leather, other trashy outfits while posing, strutting, fantasizing. I have boots, belts, briefs, hats, ripped jeans, tight, shiny basket-binding spandex pants. **7932.**

THIS WEEK

Wanna Submit?

Send calendar listings to:

This Week
Bay Area Reporter
395 9th Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Deadline is the Thursday before issue date.

Friday 29

Holiday Nutcrackin'!

SF comic Mark Davis and Seattle comedy duo Dos Fallopi in a twisted tribute to the holidays. Wed.-Sun. thru 12/31. \$12-14. Tonight at 8:10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Into the White

Artists who work with white, including David Colon, Daniel Nicoletta, Kent Taylor and Wise Fool Puppet Company. Thurs.-Sun. thru 1/7. Collision Gallery, 417 14th St. 431-4074.

The Joy of Gay Sex

John Fisher's debut musical comedy in a return engagement. \$17-20. 8pm. Bayfront Theater, Fort Mason. 436-0806.

Lesbian & Gay Gaymes Night

Play the Rainbow Gayme, Outburst, Taboo. 7pm. Boadecia's Books, 398 Colusa Ave., Kensington. (510) 559-9184.

Looking Back

Works by Michael Shanoski. Tues.-Sat. thru 1/12. Mulligan-Shanoski Gallery, 747 Post. 771-0663.

Mona Rogers In Person

Helen Shumaker as Mona, extended run Thurs.-Sun. thru 12/31. \$16-18. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason. 956-8497.

Open Mic

The Castro shares its art, every Fri. 7:30pm. Pasqua, 18th & Castro.

A Portrait of Patsy Cline

Country-western musical tribute starring Joni Morris. Thurs.-Sun. thru 12/30. 8pm. Alcazar Theatre, 650 Geary. 392-4400.

Wannabe

"A Girl Gang Invasion" directed by Kathi Georges. Fri. & Sat. thru 1/18. \$12. 9pm. Marilyn Monroe Memorial Theatre, 96 Lafayette. 552-3034.

Weslia Whitfield

Performing great American popular songs by Gershwin, Porter, Rodgers & Hart, more. Wed.-Sat. thru 12/31. \$20-25. Plush Room, York Hotel, 940 Sutter. 885-2800.

Saturday 30

David Benoit

Contemporary jazz pianist joins the SF Symphony for holiday pops concert. \$15-42. 8pm. Davies Symphony Hall. 864-6000.

Gay Comedy Night

Tom Ammiano and Karen Ripley's year-end wrap-up show. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Jump Cuts! Take Two

New Pickle Circus tour-de-force. Thru 1/1, call for times. \$12-22. Today at 287:30pm. Cowell Theater, Fort Mason. 392-4400.

Medea, the Musical

John Fisher's hybrid of Euripides and Busby Berkeley, performed by SassyMouth. \$17-20. 288pm. Bayfront Theater, Fort Mason. 436-0806.

Pumping Copy

Monologist Josh Kornbluth reveals the inner life of a lowly copy editor. Thru 12/31, call for times. \$10-15. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia. 826-5750.

The Saami:

"People of the Sun and Wind," history and handicrafts of people of Northern Sweden. Free today, 10am-noon. Tues.-Sun. thru 12/31. \$5. SF Craft & Folk Art Museum, Bldg A, Fort Mason. 775-0990.

Wild Design:

"Designs for the Wild," exhibit of fantastic yet practical designs for outdoor adventure, thru 4/16. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

Sunday 31

Beethoven's Ninth

Community Music Center Orchestra performs the Ninth Symphony, free. 10pm. First Congregational Church, 495 Post. 647-6015.

Blue & Gold Fleet

4 1/2 hr. buffet dinner/dance cruise. \$80. Departs Pier 39's West Marina, 8pm. 705-5555.

5 Parties & Psychics Corner

Funky pop, blues, swing, R&B, dance with a bay view. \$69. 8pm-2am. Claremont Hotel, Oakland. (510) 549-8549.

Futura

La Noche de Año Nuevo, Latino New Year's extravaganza, El Gran Mariachi Continental performing. Advance \$18, door \$22. Doors 9pm. Grand Ballroom, International Center, 50 Oak. 665-6715.

Girth & Mirth Club

Club for chubby gay men and their admirers, New Year's Eve party. 8pm. Call for info. 824-0260.

Kwanzaa Celebration

ASL interpreted, 7pm. New Year's Eve community worship (ASL) 9am, 11am. MCC/SF, 150 Eureka. 863-4434.

Mary's New Year

Free champagne at midnight, no cover. 9pm. Hamburger Mary's, 1582 Folsom. 626-1985.

Mona Rogers In Person

Two gala performances by Helen Shumaker, "Little Fatty" raffle. 8pm. \$25. 10pm, \$30. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason. 956-8497.

New Wave City

Say goodbye to 1995 by reliving 1985: New Wave songs from '85. \$10. CW Saloon, 911 Folsom. 675-LOVE.

New Year's Eve Dance

Living Sober. AA and AI-Anon mtg, 8pm; dance 9pm-1am. \$10-15. 1187 Franklin. 487-1712.

New Year's Eve '96

Featuring live performance by Rozalla, DJs Page Hodel, Aaron O., more. Advance \$23, door \$28. Doors 8pm. Club Universe and Pleasuredome, 177 Townsend. 974-6020.



Everybody's getting all dressed up for New Year

Billy de Herrera (right), always well turned-out in *Pageant*, is at Eichelbergers for New Year's. **Tim Lewis** on piano, and plenty of goldfish. **See Sunday**

That same night **Rozalla** (below) performs at Club Universe and Pleasuredome, and say, those shoes. **See Sunday**

The leader of **El Gran Mariachi Continental** (above) has some spiffy threads, too, which fit for Futura's Latino New Year's Extravaganza at the International Center. **See Sunday**

People are staying dressy all week. **Marga Gomez** (left) is always lookin' dapper in her solo *Line Around the Block*, which returns to Josie's. **See Wednesday**



1995 Clearance

"A Year End Revue" political comedy: Will Durst, Deb and Mike, Steven Kravitz. 7-30 show, \$20. 10pm show, \$30. Cowell Theater, Fort Mason. 392-4400.

Phantom of the Opera

Actors' Fund Benefit. \$15-65. 2pm. Curran Theatre, 445 Geary. 776-1999.

Rock Marathon

Tina Turner, 10:35pm; Pretenders, 11:32pm; REM, 12:29pm; Dylan, 1:28am, more. KOED-TV, Ch. 9.

Something Fishy

Pageant star Billy de Herrera, diva Flynn, Tim Lewis on piano, goldfish party favors. \$20. 11pm. Eichelbergers, 2742 17th St. 863-4177.

Vise Grip

And the Ambassadors of Swing, plus Cherry Poppin Daddies, New Morty Show featuring Connie Champagne. \$40, cocktail attire. 8pm. Bimbo's 365 Club, 1025 Columbus. 474-0365.

Joe Louis Walker

Blues, followed by funkadelic Kid Creole and the Coconuts. \$135. Doors 9pm. Grand Ballroom, Fairmont Hotel, 950 Mason. 772-5021.

Monday 1

Beethoven's Ninth

Community Music Center Orchestra performs the Ninth Symphony, Urs Leonhardt Steiner conducting. \$10. 4pm. First Congregational Church, 495 Post.

Gay Comedy Open Mike

MC Suzy Berger, aspiring queer comics sign up by phone. \$5. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

New Year's Eve.

New Year's Eve, with Flynn,

by, those are snappy

y, which he'll be wearing

er solo spectacular, A

—R.F., Cal. Ed.



Hangover Party

Complimentary well & domestic beer. 10am-Noon. IJ's Getaway, 21859 Mission, Hayward. (510) 582-8078.

Tuesday 2

Artists and the Nude

Group show incl. Sabato Fiorello, Simone Gad, Luc Janssens. Afternoons or by appt., thru 1/12. Naked Art Gallery, 355 Bryant, Loft 110. 284-0567.

Paul Hallam

Discussing *The Book of Sodom*, free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Love Is the Devil's Doormat

Installation by Elliott Linwood, with Thomas Eric Stanton's "I'm Singing My Father's Dreams." Tu-Sat. thru 1/16. Morphos Gallery, 49 Geary. 399-1439.

Luis Mallo

Cuban-born, NY-based photographer's photos of trains and train stations. Thru 1/5. Galleria, UC Extension Center, 55 Laguna. 252-5221.

Picasso the Sculptor

First exhibition of Picasso's sculptures on the West Coast. Thru 3/10. Palace of the Legion of Honor, 34th Ave. & Clement. 863-3330.

Teapot Invitational

Artists including Bill Albright, Annette Corcoran, others, design teapots. Tues-Sat. thru 1/27. Dorothy Weiss Gallery, 256 Sutter. 397-3611.

Tendencies:

"New Art from Mexico City,"

eight young MC artists curated by Rubén Gallo. Tues-Sun. thru 1/21. Walter/McBean Gallery, SFAI, 800 Chestnut. 771-7020.

Oscar Wilde:

"A Man of Great Importance," 30 artists interpret Wilde. Tues-Sat. thru 1/6. Terrain, 165 Jessie. 543-0656.

Women With Balls

Showcase for women stand-up comics, every Tues. \$4. 8pm. Cat's Alley Club, 1190 Folsom. 431-3332.

Wednesday 3

A Chorus of Colors

"Chinese Glass from Three American Collections," rare works of glass. Wed-Sun. thru 2/25. \$6. Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park. 668-7855.

Gaslight

A.C.T.'s production of Patrick Hamilton's suspense thriller classic. Tues-Sun. thru 1/28, call for times. \$15-41. 8pm. Stage Door Theatre, 420 Mason. 749-2ACT.

Gay Skate

Rink full of queers on roller-skates. \$5 includes skates rental. 8-10:30pm. Rolladium Roller Rink, 363 North Amphlett, San Mateo. 1-800-473-8658.

A Line Around the Block

Solo performer Marga Gomez returns in her off-Broadway bound spectacular. Wed-Sun. thru 1/14. \$12-14. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Luggage Show

4th annual juried visual art exhibition. Wed-Sat. thru 1/31. The Luggage Store, 1007 Market. 255-5971.

Motown Dance Party

Hostess & performer Jealousy, Miss Gay San Francisco. No cover, donations for Glide Mem'l AIDS Outreach Program. 9:30pm. El Rio, 3158 Mission. 282-3325.

Open All Night

Exhibit of photographs from Ken Miller's new collection: skinheads, addicts, whores, thru 1/13. Vision North Gallery, 2300 Polk. 474-4581.

Points of Entry:

"Reframing America," seven European émigré photographers. Also: "S-21: Portraits from the Killing Fields," Khmer Rouge brutality. Tues-Sun. thru 1/7. \$4. Ansel Adams Center for Photography, 250 4th St. 495-7000.

West Side Story

The musical theater classic returns, thru 1/21, call for times. \$25-60. Orpheum Theatre, 1192 Market. 474-3800.

Thursday 4

Bingo

Gay bingo benefits Coming Home Hospice, every Thurs. \$12. Doors 6pm. Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond St. 241-0425.

Eight from South Africa

Sculpture and painting by eight contemporary South African artists. Tues-Sun. thru 3/3. \$5. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

An Everyday Modernism

Exhibition of the work of residential architect William Wilson Wurster, Thru 2/11. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

Home Brew

New works by Tracy Clark, Tuesday, Kathy Fenker, Jason Mecier; also, retrospective of works by Spaulding Taylor. Thurs-Sat. thru 1/6. Belcher Studios Gallery, 69 Belcher. 626-8917.

Inner Vision

Photographic collaboration between A. Ray and Trinette Reed, reception tonight, 8pm. Thru Jan. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

A Language of Their Own

Chay Yew's play about love, loss and language among four young gay men. Thurs-Sun. thru 2/4, tonight at 8pm. \$16-18. Asian American Theater, 403 Arguello. 751-2600.

No Skin Off My Ass

Bruce LaBruce's gay remake of Altman's *That Cold Day in the Park*: tag punk blow job. \$5.50. 7:30, 9:15pm. Red Vic Movie House, 1727 Haight. 668-3994.

PWAC

Meeting and informal social gathering of People With AIDS Coalition-SF. 7pm. Eureka Valley Rec Ctr, 100 Collingwood. 522-2341.

Tibetan Art

Exhibition of prints of thank paintings, collection of sacred Buddhist texts. Thurs-Sun. thru 2/25. \$5. Dharma House, 2910 San Pablo, Berkeley. (510) 548-5407.

Whose Body, Whose Rights?

Documentary features discussion of foreskin restoration. \$10 benefits NOHARM. (\$8.50 film only.) Reception 6:30pm, 7pm screening. Casting Couch Theatre, 950 Battery.

Join Us on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day



Breakfast/lunch from 8:30am - 4:30pm
Dinner served from 5:00 - 10:30pm

Grilled Rack of Lamb with apple-mint chutney, fresh vegetable ragout, wild rice or potatoes.....12.95

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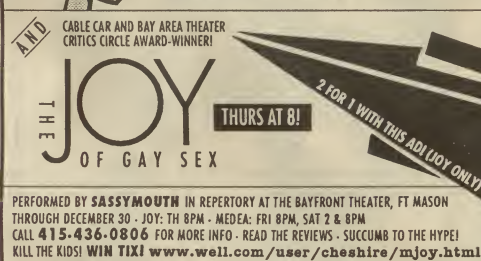
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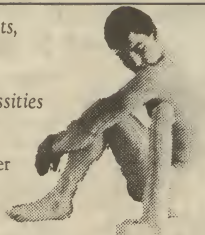
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MR. MARCUS

Thanks for the Memories Part II: Marcus Remembers

This is the second part of my two-part year-in-review piece, begun last week. If you're not mentioned here then you need to get with the program.

• July 1995 was memorable for several reasons. On Sunday, July 7, Philip Turner and Greg Pennington, that tireless duo, staged a beerbust and auction for the Gay & Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California at the Eagle, an event that racked up a few thousand dollars for that worthy organization; The Phoenix Uniform Club announced that same day that their Leather & Uniform Ball, held the night before the Alphabet Parade, raised (and delivered) \$3,750 for the AIDS Emergency Fund. Bravo on both counts.

George Holcroft, a transplant from Sacramento who tends bar at The Jackhammer, instituted hood parties there and has since dominated the Saturday afternoon bar scene in San Francisco with various fetish-oriented beerbusts; the regional Mr. Drummer contests rolled along with Alvin Robinson winning the Great Lakes region the same weekend that Ed Ryder of Washington, D.C. won the Mid-Atlantic Drummer title in Baltimore; in New York Adam Colt won the Mr. Northeast Drummer title; and in Chicago, San Jose's Pat Baille won the International Ms. Leather title the same weekend. (Pat is leaving us at the end of this month to live in Albuquerque, New Mexico. I have yet to receive the "official" IMsL photo from producer Amy Marie Meek.)

The Dore Alley Fair was moved to July 16. A huge crowd turned out for the event, which also featured the Castro Lions' leather auction, an event that raised more money than expected for the charities they support; the ICF staged a successful bike blessing, and the Satyr MC of LA announced the final weekend run of their long-running Badger Flat weekend; in Denver, David Walker was chosen Mr. Rocky Mountain Drummer and enjoyed a trip to San Francisco for the Intl. Mr. Drummer finals; The Men of Discipline, a group of hunky studs from New York, made a big splash there, and an even bigger one here at the Mr. Drummer finals; Cornelius Conboy was named SF Leather Daddy; and at the Turf Club in Hayward, "Thumper" and Ken Meyers were chosen Ms./Mr. Alameda County Leather; Omar



Photo: Dirk Dahner

The late Steve Darrow (seated) and Peter Morrison, two dynamic leathermen in days of yore, would like it that I chose their photos with which to wish you all a Happy New Year.

Moseley won the Mr. Northern California Drummer title at Club F/X in San Jose; David Crown of Indianapolis was chosen as Intl. Mr. Deaf Leather.

• In August, Joe Spina won the Mr. Southern California Drummer title at the Faultline in LA, the same event at which "Pup" was named Drummer Boy; and in Orlando, Ray Castro got the sash that proclaimed him Mr. Florida Drummer; in his bid for a niche in the international arenas of leather sashdom, Dustin Logan staged the International Mr. Fantasy contest in Omaha, which, according to reliable sources, was a smashing success; J.D. Buchert of Dallas won that title and has been very visible all over the country ever since; some \$7000 was raised by Philip Turner's annual Leather Extravaganza; and it was announced that Irwin Kane would emcee the Mr. Drummer finals.

Joan Jett Blakk was made emcee of the SF Leather Daddy's Boy Contest, which pissed off a lot of leathermen. In short, she bombed.

• September found San Francisco — in fact the whole country — laboring under a sweltering, record-breaking heat wave; in Boston, Hawk Brooks, a former San Franciscan and leather shop owner, won the final Drummer Regional contest on September 2 at the Boston Ramrod. Jeff Zirpola outdid himself with the production, and it was there that computerized scoring for the Drummer Finals was born, thanks in no small way to Charles Carley, who wrote the program that was later refined for the finals by our own Tim Wong. Results of the competition were announced five minutes after the scoring. Leather has finally gone high tech.

Facing irrational prejudicial treatment, New York's Men of Discipline launched their own media blitz with a statement of purpose in a quarterly newsletter; *Bandana* magazine carried a scathing critique of Mr. N.E. Leather '94 Joe Ricci and Mr. N.Y. Leather Andy Borden. Since it was a regional dispute all around, not too much has come of it, but *Bandana* never rests. Their bi-monthly issue is always awaited with baited breath. Who, I wonder, will get it *this* time? We'll see when the next issue comes out in February!

San Francisco Leather Pride Week was fabulous. Thousands of dollars were raised by all the wonderful activities, which drew thousands of leathermen and women from all over the world to our fair city. Leather Pride Walk, Basket Auction, Fetish & Fantasy, Tough Customer parties were blessed



Photo: Mr. Marcus

Intl. Ms. Leather Pat Baille leaves the Bay Area to live in Albuquerque, NM at the end of the month. A farewell party is planned for her at the Stockade Bar in San Jose tonight, Thursday, Dec. 28. Here she is shown with Mr. San Jose Leather '94 & '95, Kevin Roche.

Eventures in Leather

All phone numbers are in the 415 area code unless otherwise indicated.

Thursday, Dec. 28

Ms. L. Pat Baile is moving to Albuquerque, N.M., and there's a bon voyage party for her at The Stockade (305 Stockton) in San Jose. This is not a fundraiser, so get down there and wish her and her other half all the best in the Land of Enchantment.

Sharon McNight headlines at the Great American Music Hall at 2000 tonight, featuring a work in progress, "Red Hot Mama." If you've got a faulty version of her CD/Tape, *The B&B Years*, you can exchange it here tonight or at Medium Rare Records (2310 Market).

Saturday, Dec. 30

Big Boots beer bust at the Jackhammer from 1600 to 1900 for only \$5. Need I tell you that boots are mandatory?

You know the rules! Just do it!

Sunday, Dec. 31

New Years Eve Usher in 1996 at your favorite watering hole. The 15 Association's party looks promising. Call 673-0452 for invite/location. Only \$10. Soft stuff provided or BYOB. Trim, shave and buzz-cut station will be open for you. Prepare to be sheared!

Rozalla headlines at Club Universe (177 Townsend), with all the usual amenities and a "surprise" at midnight.

Danny Williams headlines at the Edge while you explain your prostitutions, er, resolutions for 1996.

It's Nick Varetakis' last night at the Eagle; his new other half Jim Bryant will be on hand to break up any break-ups planned!

At the Cinch Saloon (Polk Street's butchest bar), the party starts at 2000 with champagne - and at midnight,

the Fabulous Velcros.

Thursday, Jan. 4

1996 Bare Chest calendar guys will be signing the \$10 Bare Chest Calendar tonight at Daddy's Bar. Bring your breathalyzer in case that myopic bartender thinks "you've had enough."

Saturday, Jan. 6

Defenders MC beer bust at the Lone Star Saloon, but no details furnished at my deadline.

Sunday, Jan. 7

Bare Chest Calendar guys who didn't get auctioned off for dinner dates earlier this year go on the block at the beer bust at the Eagle this afternoon, 1500-1800. No details furnished, but plenty of bargains for sure! Ring in the New Year with a fresh set of pecs! ▼

from on high — again SMMILE pulled it off and there wasn't a drop of rain! In the process, SMMILE raised and distributed \$63,000!

Audrey Joseph's superb production of International Mr. Drummer '95 (Night of the Shogun theme) was praised by attendees around the world, and in the end Colorado Springs' David Walker took the title. Southern California Drummer Boy, "Pup" took the Drummer Boy title, and at my deadline this week I learned that he will soon be moving to Topeka, Kansas for work-related reasons; the community was shocked and dismayed when Audrey announced that this year will be the last in which she produces Drummer (everybody is still trying to get her to change her mind).

In October, the granddaddy of all leather bars — the N.Y. Eagle — celebrated its 25th anniversary; it was another horde of hedonists in the Valley of the Dolls at the Castro St. Fair; and in New Orleans a man named Mitch won the Louisiana Mr. Leather title (he refuses to divulge his last name); the NLA staged Living in Leather in Portland; and Andy Mangels hosted the American Uniform Association's annual gathering. It was also the second annual queer biker invasion weekend trip to Zabriskie Point in Death Valley; Craig Mercer won the Mr. Leather Colorado title in Denver.

At this point in time, the NFL season was in high gear and the 49ers were not looking too good. The team's luck, however, soon changed; the GDI's annual "A Date at Minsky's" was well-received; John at the Jackhammer launched a new fisting club (I haven't heard how the plunging is going).

Miranda von Stockhausen was chosen Ms. San Jose/Southbay Leather and Kevin Roche repeated as Mr. San Jose Leather! The Leather Archives finally opened in Chicago and Chuck Renslow opened his new Eagle Leathers store there; Leather & Feathers at the Eagle was another smash success and the Shame Sisters repeated as best group in the costume competition.

In November, the Palm Springs leather community launched its first Mr. Palm Springs Leather contest; Beau Barker took the title. (The event was held in conjunction with the Palm Springs Rodeo — it was a great weekend).

In Amsterdam, the Motor Sportsclub Amsterdam celebrated its 25th anniversary with the Euro-

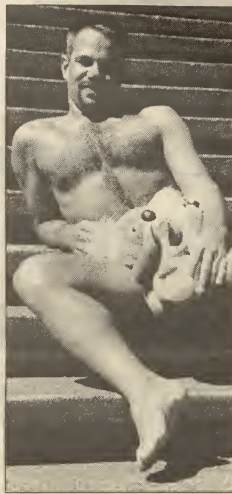


Photo: Mr. Marcus

Michael Greenberg, Mr. November '96 on the SOMA Bare Chest Calendar, is among the 13 winners who are currently selling the calendar in the Castro each Saturday. Do you have yours yet?

pean Council of Motorcycle Clubs and staged the first ever Mr. Leather Europe and Mr. Drummer Europe contests. Handsome Antonio Sanchez of Madrid won both titles!

The DC-Eagle in Washington celebrated its 24th anniversary with a three-day celebration; Ray Hall was named Mr. DC Eagle; in Guerneville, Scott Voelte won the first Mr. Russian River Leather title; and in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Mr. Tulsa Leather, Arlin Spitzer (not Spinter), won the Mr. Oklahoma Leather title; former Mr. San Diego Leather, William "Taurus" Webster, moved to San Francisco and is currently holding forth at the Wooden Horse on Polk Street.

In Seattle, Raymond LeBrun, Mr. Washington State Leather, resigned his title, throwing that community into a tizzy; Michael Yates won the Mr. SF Bear title (he will compete for International Mr. Bear next February); Coming Home Hospice Bingo decided to stage a leather night and picked "Nanette," a leather and latex woman, to win the Ms. Bingo Leather, beating out five leathermen for the title; Greg Satories won the Mr. Maryland Leather contest in Baltimore; SMMILE presented \$63,000 to various

agencies, proceeds from the Dore Alley and Folsom St. Fairs. A lot of credit to volunteers and the board of SMMILE for their great effort.

Nick Varetakis, a 10-year employee of the SF-Eagle, announced he would be moving to Nashville to become the domestic partner of Jim Bryant, throwing his faithful fans into a tizzy. (To say we'll miss him is an understatement. Wouldn't you know, there are already at least a dozen men vying to replace him. Manager Bob Bowling says he will deal with the issue in January. Stay tuned!)

In December, the 49ers chugged up their agenda, making it look like they're headed for the playoffs and possible Super Bowl XXX; Leather Daddy Cornelius Conboy delivered some 600 toys to kids with AIDS at SF General, St. Luke's and California Pacific hospitals. With the help of the bike clubs, he even delivered some to shelters for women with children throughout the city. Volunteerism like this is outstanding. Special thanks must go to Alan Selby, Dick Manning, Steve Miller, Wes Ballard, Richard Hunter and Linck. The M.I.R.A.C.L.E. (Make it Real, AIDS Children Live Everywhere) was a smashing success!

Once again I've not missed a deadline. I hope I have broadened your leather horizons this year by not only reporting on local leather events but international leather events as well. If your function didn't get publicized, it's because you didn't send me a press release. *No bitching!* Many, many thanks to my "stringers" around the country, who kept me informed about things leathery and provided me with photos for your enjoyment. Little did I realize some 25 years ago that this column would turn into such a spectacular international forum, but it has. Believe it or not, some people bitch and moan about all the out-of-California news, but let's face it, our leather community isn't busy every weekend, is it?

By the time you read this, Christmas '95 will have come and gone. Let me say thanks to all of you, the volunteers, who helped with the AIDS Emergency Fund and Tenderloin Tessie Christmas dinners for those less fortunate. It takes a lot of dedication to surrender your comfortable place in life and get out there to help the needy. I am so proud of so many people, leather and non-leather alike. To all of you I wish a happy and healthy 1996. You all deserve it — 1995 was a great year. ▼

a taste of leather

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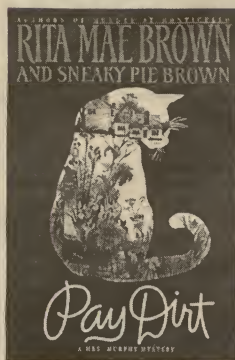
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Talk to the Animals

Pay Dirt by Rita Mae Brown and Sneaky Pie Brown; Bantam, \$21.95

by Deborah Peifer

I've studiously avoided Rita Mae Brown's mystery novels, co-written with her cat, Sneaky Pie, ever since a friend whose opinion I trust read the first and pronounced it icky. With four novels in the series, however, I decided it was time to take a look for myself.

I should say first that I think *Pay Dirt* fails utterly as a mystery novel. There is no mystery when the villain is obvious to the reader from the very first time the character appears. Having said that,

however, I must also say that I found *Pay Dirt* a thoroughly enjoyable read. Taken as a slice of Southern small town life, the book offers winning characters and all kinds of homey details that will make you wish you could visit Crozet.

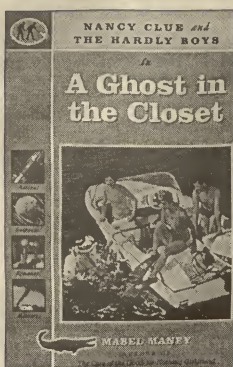
Brown's inclusion of various animals as major characters in the novel, the very aspect that brought the judgment icky from my friend, turns out to be great fun. The animals, Mrs. Murphy, a cat, and her friend Tucker, a corgi, understand both human speech and human behavior. Although they try mightily to converse with the humans, the humans are, alas, just a little too dense, or too self-absorbed to understand. *Pay Dirt* is an entertaining look at the world we share with many different species. I'm not sure it's worth the \$21.95 hard cover price, but isn't that what libraries are for? ▼

Not For Kids Only

A Ghost in the Closet by Mabel Maney; Cleis, \$10.95

by Deborah Peifer

When I was a young reader, I devoured the "young adult" mysteries: Nancy Drew, The Hardy Boys, Cherry Ames, Donna Parker, Trixie Belden. I dreamt that someday, when I was 18 and knew everything, some sinister stranger would appear, and I would save the day with my hitherto undetected skills as a sleuth. At the very least, I thought I'd own a car (preferably a red con-



vertible, but I was willing to settle for less). Years have passed, many years in fact, and not only have I never detected anything, I can't even drive a car. I still remember those youthful sleuths with great fondness, however, so it was with some trepidation that I approached *A Ghost in the Closet*, a Nancy Clue and Hardy Boys mystery. I am happy to say that Mabel Maney clearly has a great affection for those glorious detectives. Although her spoof is wickedly funny, the undercurrent of affection gives the book the necessary modicum of heart that sustains the humor.

There is no point in discussing the plot, save to say that things are not as they seem in River Depths. Poodles are disappearing, world famous detective Fennel P. Hardy and his wife are missing, and Cherry Aimless can't decide if she should be a "Lake Resort Nurse" and spend her summer cautioning vacationers about the dangers of sunstroke, or to be a Prairie Nurse in a nifty tan uniform warning people about the hazards of grass

allergies." Then there's the question of love — does Cherry love Nancy enough to leave her hospital chums in Seattle and become an Illinois Nurse? What about the dreamy Detective Jackie Jones? I could go on, but the point is that *A Ghost in the Closet* is a wildly funny adult spoof of an entire era of kid's fiction. Don't miss it. ▼

The Ultimate Challenge

A Question of Balance: Artists and Writers on Motherhood edited by Judith Pierce Rosenberg; Papier-mache, \$14

by Deborah Peifer

Between the dark and the daylight,
When the night is beginning to lower,
Comes a pause in the day's occupations,
That is known as the Children's Hour

Of course, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow could rhapsodize about a children's hour, because for the other 23 hours, Mrs.

Longfellow was feeding, bathing, diapering, and otherwise minding grave Alice, laughing Allegra, and Edith with the golden hair. If, perchance, the children were cranky, the hour could be cut short. And if Henry felt a song coming on, he could send the children away, secure in the knowledge that Mrs. L. would keep the little beggars quiet, lest his muse be distracted.

In her introduction to an extraordinary collection of essays, Judith Pierce Rosenberg evokes the male-female dichotomy: "In the popular imagination, the artist is a solitary male in his studio while the good mother is in the kitchen surrounded by her offspring ... The artist must maintain a core, a center, a sense of self from which to create. But the good mother should be selfless."

What happens to a woman who is both artist and mother? Must she choose one or the other, a choice men never have to make, or can she find a way to do both without sacrificing either? The women whose artistic and maternal stories appear in *A Question of Balance* have found a way to have both, but only with great struggles and an iron discipline. What comes through in these pieces is a clear sense that both motherhood and artistry are essential to their lives. If you're having a similar conundrum in your life, you might make time to read the success stories of these women/artists/mothers. ▼

SPORTS

Boston on Horizon for Marathoners

by Rick Thoman

As the 1995 season draws to a close for the Bay Area Distance Runners (BADR), many members are already anxiously awaiting next year's 100th running of the world-renowned Boston Marathon.

"The deadline to qualify for the race is December 31," said Dave Studach, BADR president. He indicated that several of the club's runners have already made the grade and will participate in next year's historic Boston run.

"Boston usually has about 7,000 to 9,000 runners," Studach pointed out. "But for 1996 they are anticipating close to 25,000 official runners and perhaps as many unregistered runners."

The club begins training for Boston in mid-January. But that isn't all BADR has on its agenda for the coming year. In addition to the marathon, members will also participate in a variety of marathons across the country and throughout the world.

Bay Area Distance Runners formed in 1985 to train and take part in the 1986 Gay Games. Over the years the club's membership has grown steadily. In 1995, BADR runners participated in marathons in Boston, Portland, Seattle, San Francisco, Chicago, New York, Honolulu, St. George (Utah), Columbus (Ohio), Sacramento, Ukiah and such international venues as Berlin, Paris and London.

"We prepare for four marathons a year: spring, summer, fall and winter," Studach explained. "We have members who may only compete in one race and others who compete in more than four per year. It's up to the indi-



BADR leader Dave Studach

vidual how often they want to compete. Our organization is there to make sure they are prepared and have plenty of support."

For those interested in joining BADR as they prepare for Boston, the Avenue of the Giants, the Napa Valley, the California International, or any of the other marathons on tap for 1996, call Dave Studach at (415) 626-1380, or Jane Meyer (415) 653-3770 for details and training schedules. And don't be left behind for the 1998 Gay Games in Amsterdam. Remember, BADR helped organize and train the largest contingent of marathoners — 50 — for the 1994 New York Gay Games. They hope to take as many, if not more, to the Amsterdam Games. As Studach says, "It's never too early to start getting in shape." ▼

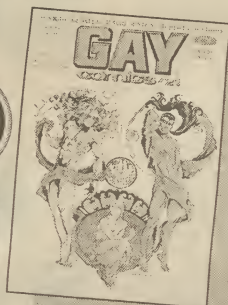
Photo: Rick Thoman

GAY comics BACK ISSUES



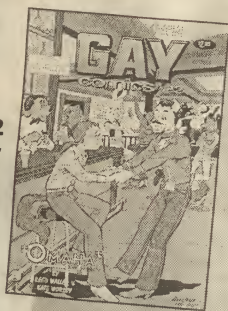
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Gaslight Entertaining But Lacks Depth Turn Up the Flame

by John F. Karr

After the musical muddle that is *Kiss of the Spider-woman*, it was a relief, a near joy, to see A.C.T.'s revival of Patrick Hamilton's 1938 West End and Broadway hit, *Gaslight*.

Yes, this pioneer in psychological intrigue — a wife being driven insane by her scheming husband — is creaky, so creaky it almost groans, loudest of all just before it surprises us with an unexpected little twist. *Gaslight* is the granddaddy of *Deathtrap*, alright, and in this lovingly set (J.B. Wilson), dressed (Deborah Nadoolman), and played production, it's a charming return to the old days. As the inspector who saves the day, William Patterson is his usual droll and sincere self, and as the victimized wife, A.C.T. debutante Julie Boyd plays a well-plumbed range of emotions; strangely, in the role of the suave yet demonic husband (the role that launched Vincent Price's career), the usually more impressive Charles Lanyer offers a walk-through.

This *Gaslight* strikes the remembered poses of melodrama, and the simulation of footlights (lights by Peter Maradudin) adds just the right neat touch. It moves rather quickly for an Albert Takazauckas production, and that's a surprise. If it simmers considerably, but never boils over (as it could), and if the characters are played rather one-dimensionally, that's typical of

Takazauckas: amiable rather than sharp.

The pre-opening publicity and some program notes on the status of women during the period of the play's action, attempt a link with contemporary issues of abuse of women. Had the dependably stolid Takazauckas any panache or depth this might have played out more effectively. Alas, it does not. He also robs the beleaguered heroine of her revenge, a cunningly written mad scene. Without it, the poor wench merely looks stupid.

Whatever. It's still a cracker-jack play, and it brings us to several moments of baited-breath suspense intertwined and followed by the knowing laughter of an audience that is actually beguiled by the play and sophisticated enough to enjoy their willing gullibility. ▼

Patrick Hamilton's *Gaslight* continues at A.C.T. through January 28. Call 749-2ACT for tickets.



Julie Boyd and William Paterson in *Gaslight*.

Photo: Ken Friedman

SWEET LIPS

New Year's Rush Is On

Oh I'm just having myself a big old laugh this week. Our esteemed publisher has been telling me for at least a quarter century now that I'm not permitted to run his picture in the paper. I know it, and he knows I know it. Lord, the whole world knows it, but the stupid kid from Rent-an-Editor didn't know it and last week when he ran The Big One's picture he almost got canned, fired, sent out the door. Isn't that hilarious! I'm so clever I amaze myself. The world really is my osterizer, or something like that.

I hope everyone's getting

geared up for all those fabulous end-of-the-year bashes. Yeah, it was a lousy year, but now it's over and what better way to say goodbye to 1995 than to put several *les plus grande* bottles of Jim Beam in a bag and take a long stroll down Polk Street at the bewitching hour. There'll sure be lots of celebratin' on The Street on the last night of 1995. But before you get comatose, head on over to Kimo's for their spectacular New Year's Eve gala, which will be hosted by Diamond John, Miss Alexis and Alexis Miranda. Extra help will be provided by M.C. Grand Duchess XXI, Ro Flack

and a very special guest, Harlow (no, good friend Paul Berne will not be in attendance). Door prizes, party favors, complimentary hors d'oeuvres and champagne at midnight will make this a very special occasion. Donations for the AIDS Memorial Grove are requested.

New Year's Eve celebratin' will start early at the Giraffe Video Lounge. The NFL playoff games will be shown on their enormous television monitor. A complimentary buffet and dancing will round out the evening. No cover charge all night. This is the place to be.

The Cinch Saloon — we've always called it the good time bar

— will start its New Year's celebration at 9 p.m. with the Fabulous Velcros, a truly hot musical ensemble. I urge you to come out and join in the fun.

And then, of course, there's the fabulous Swallow, which will usher in 1996 with an entire evening's worth of piano entertainment.

Birthday greetings to David "Mame" Hamilton of Portland, who takes another step toward senility on January 2. Empress Mozarella and yours truly wish you a fabulous year, honey.

Remember everybody, 1996 is a leap year. ▼

SPORTS

1996 Track & Field Training Begins

by Rick Thoman

San Francisco Track & Field will begin workouts on Sunday, January 7 at 10 a.m. at Kezar Stadium. Training sessions will be held every Tuesday and Thursday at 6 p.m. and Sundays at 10 a.m.

According to co-coach Frank Demby, 1996 will be a re-building year for the SFT&FC. After record low membership in 1995, Demby says '96 will begin the team's push towards the Gay Games in Amsterdam in 1998.

"We've got to start getting ready now if we want to stay on top of the competition," he said. "Those athletes who want to compete in 1998 have got to realize that somewhere in the world right now someone is training to win the gold."

Some of the meets on tap for the SFT&FC in 1996 include Sacramento, Los Gatos, Los Angeles and the U.S. National Championships in Spokane, Washington in July. The season will finish up in Santa Barbara in early October. The Berkeley winter meets (Open and Masters divisions) will begin January 13 and continue through March 9.

For info, call (415) 550-7966. ▼

The Bay Area Reporter wishes you a HAPPY NEW YEAR!



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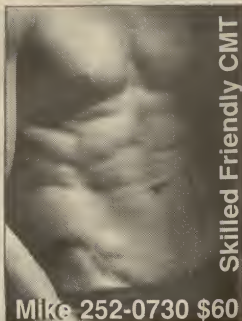
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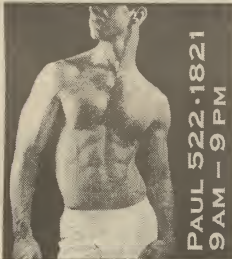
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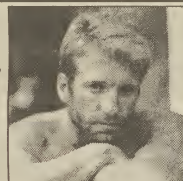
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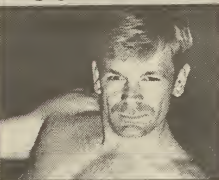
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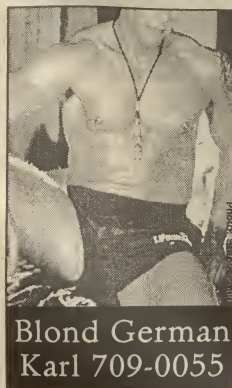
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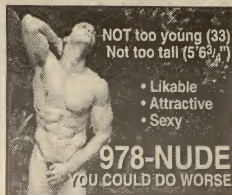


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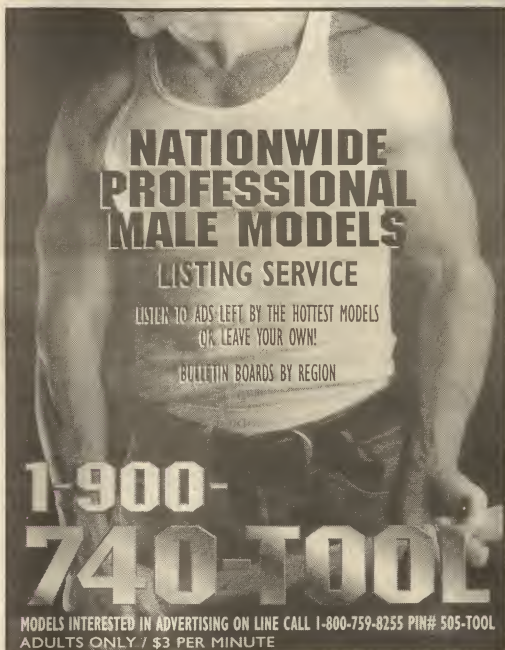
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 Gd/kg Blo, 5'11", 165#, 34, \$50
 Pgr 496-0156

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 Handsome, Masculine Top.
 Young, Athletic Type.
 All Levels Of Experience
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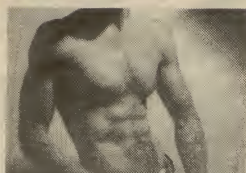


BOYS-2-MEN ESCORTS
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800-666-6933
 FAX PHOTOS AVAILABLE
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<http://www.hooked.net/boys2men/>

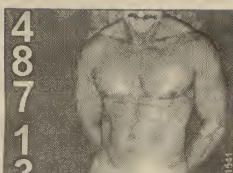
The B.A.R. now has
cool stuff on the internet!
 Check it out!
<http://www.gay.net/bar>

MODELS/ESCORTS

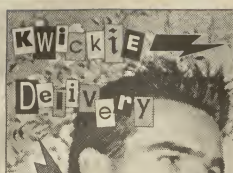
B.A.R. CLASSIFIEDS



MAN NEXT DOOR
Muscular 34 6'4" 190#
Auburn Blond, Lightly Furry
Hung \$100 SEAN 487-1949



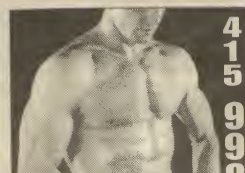
4871379
Tony
E32



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UNCUT BIKERSTUD
Hung Big - Low Hangers.
Handsome, Aggressive
Topman!!!
Built, Friendly, Dominant!
Verbal, Open-Minded, 24 Hrs.
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190 Lbs, Beautiful, Hard, Smooth Body
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6 ft 180 Br/Br 28 Yr
Lightly Hairy Chest


Attractive, Young BRAZILIAN
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Rates adjust to time.
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30 Min. & Up: \$40 in \$60 Out
Tall Lean, Hung MATT 552-7224 E32



ITALIAN
807 - 9822



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8+ - Mid 30's - No Attitude
\$100 in/out metro S.F. as of mid-
day 12/28, ask for Will Jackson
or call # (714) 746-0570
till 10pm nitely - THANKS!

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sensual... DOMINANT
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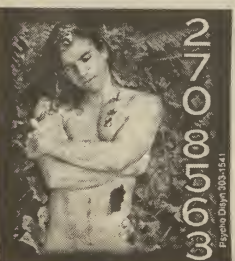
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cular 8 1/2 Italian When a man
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Versatile Blond Boy, 29
Tight, Smooth & Gym-Toned
5'10", 155#, Hung 8X6
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5'11" 150# 8" Uncut 30 Y/O
Dave * 957-0111 9AM-9PM E32

100% SMOOTH
Hard Muscle, Shaved Head
No Body Hair
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LATINO * 24 HOURS
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E32

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Very Hung Will Travel
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5'9 160# 42c 29w Hung 8"
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Sexy Energy Without The Hype
compact torso great chest bubble butt
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170lbs
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Dark Brown Hair & Eyes
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Very Good Looking,
Solid Muscle, Smooth Body,
Washboard Abs 10.5" Cut
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CHAD



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Italian Stallion
8" Cut-n-Thick
Aggressive Verbal
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Top \$85 Julian 863-4269 E32
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Real B.B., Thick, Ripped!
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Toned Body - Fun & Hot.
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